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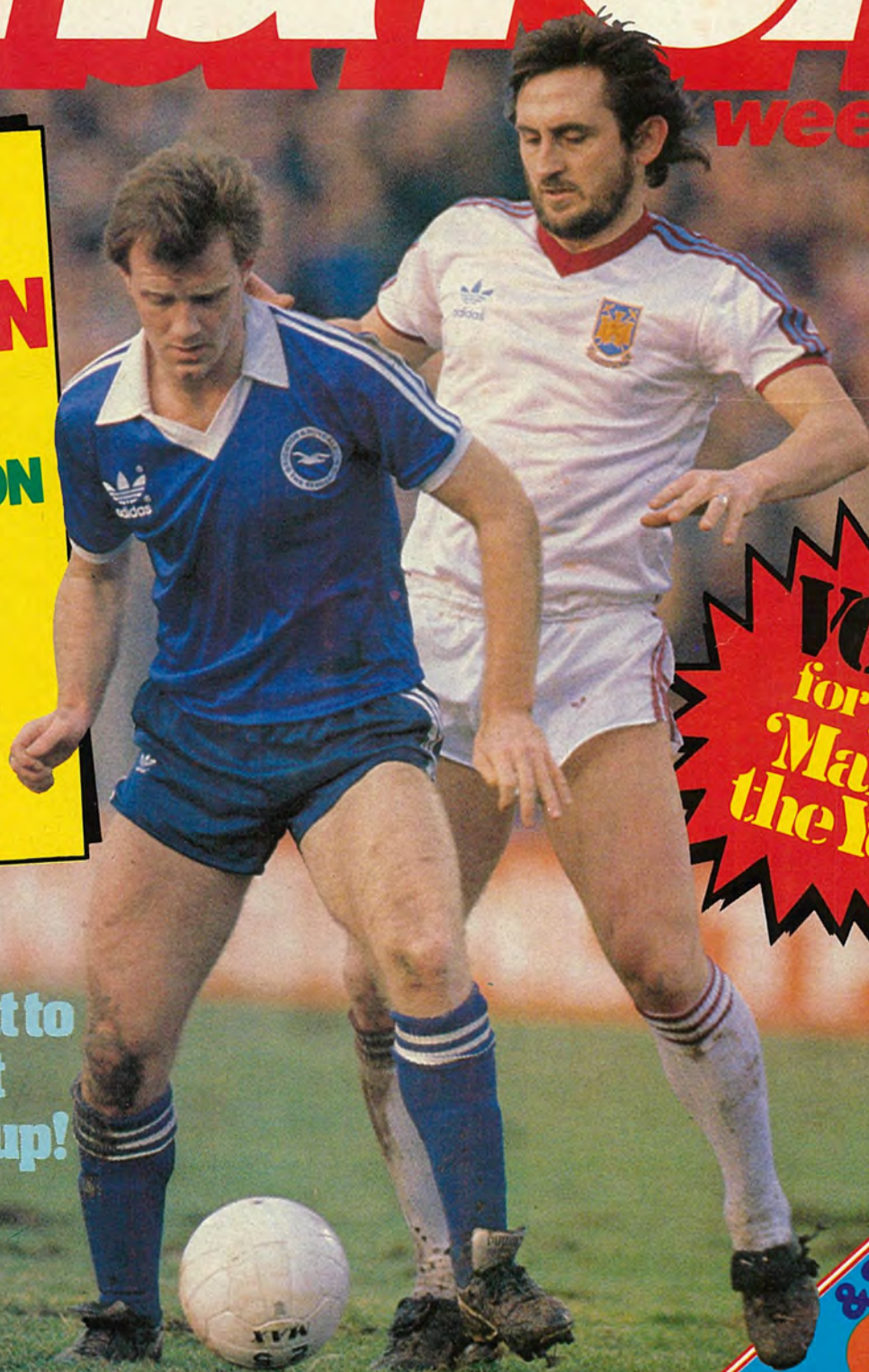
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PREVIEW



TOP OF

England have won over Spanish fans, says

KEVIN KEEGAN

ENGLAND already have a big advantage over the three teams that we meet in our World Cup Group Four matches in Bilbao in June. The fans there love us!

We made firm friends with the 'locals' by the way we played in last week's game against Athletic Bilbao.

And I believe it is a friendship that will stand us in good stead when we begin our assault on the World Cup with our opening game against France in the very same San

Mames Stadium only ten weeks from now.

The crowd gave us a tremendous reception when we walked out and they really appreciated it when we kicked souvenir balls to them.

And at the end, they stood and applauded us off the pitch.

In between, our football in the 1-1 draw was breathtaking... and the fans adored it. The game was a testimonial for local hero Amario Rocca who has served the club for 18 years and the 30,000 crowd guaranteed him a massive pay day. But it was not a friendly as far as we were concerned.

Okay, there were no crashing tackles, but we went out and played it right — and so did they. With Tony Morley and Steve Coppell playing down the wings and Cyrille Regis and myself spearheading the attack, we threatened to go on the rampage.

Only their 'keeper — a revelation called Zudizarregga — stood between us and a cricket score. He'll never play like that again. It was us against him.

Steve Coppell had three great shots saved, a brilliant effort by Bryan Robson looked a certain goal until he got to it, Cyrille Regis might have had two and Tony Morley was also unlucky.

I could have had five goals myself, though looking back I would still put the ball in the same places if I could have those chances again. The 'keeper just had one of those games.

The one goal we did score came from a free-kick about 25 yards out on the left-hand side of the box as we faced their goal.

Bryan Robson tapped the ball two yards to his right, Trevor Brooking stopped it and I bent it right-footed around the wall and into the bottom corner of the net.

By moving the ball a couple of yards, Bryan had widened the angle for me and by stopping the ball Trevor cut down the risk of me mishitting it. Simple, yet effective.

It was particularly pleasing because it is a set piece that we

match

weekly

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FRONT COVER CAPTION:
West Ham's Frank Lampard
challenges Brighton's Andy
Ritchie for the ball.

THE TOP TEAM

Keegan and Match Weekly

NOT everyone will be lucky enough to travel to the World Cup Finals this summer.

But if you are not among them you can still follow your country's fortunes in Spain... by buying Match Weekly.

Match is the magazine I write for... because it's the best there is. And from now, right up to and through the World Cup Finals, I'll be bringing you my views. And I'll be in great company.

There's Spurs' midfield ace GLENN HODDLE, one of the world's most naturally gifted players... Man. Utd's STEVE COPPELL, described only last week by manager Ron Greenwood as 'essential to England'... PAUL MARINER, the No. 9 who has led our attack so well on the way to Spain... DAVID CROSS, that

irrepressible goal-getter with London favourites West Ham... and GRAEME SOUNESS, Liverpool's inspirational skipper who will be carrying Scotland's World Cup hopes into battle against the likes of Brazil and Russia! It's a winning team.

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THE BILL IN BILBAO!

England skipper
KEVIN KEEGAN gives
his exclusive verdict
on the vital and
highly-successful
World Cup warm-up
game against
Athletico Bilbao in Spain.

The San Mames Stadium in Bilbao where England will play their opening matches in the World Cup Finals. "The ground itself could hardly be better," says Kevin Keegan.



have worked on in training and there is nothing more satisfying than seeing a rehearsed move come off when it's for real.

The Continentals and South Americans must score fifty per cent of their goals from set pieces like free kicks and corner kicks, which proves the worth of working on them in training.

When you get one move right, it's time to start working on another, so in your next game you can surprise the opposition by coming up with something completely different.

The same move nearly worked again later in the game but that 'keeper somehow tipped my shot over the bar.

Ron Greenwood must have seen a lot to please him. Cyrille Regis had a great half before coming off to give Peter Withe a run and Steve Coppell had a superb game. He really looked sharp and everything he did was right.

On the other wing, Tony Morley was not quite as successful on the night, but he still did some amazing things and created chances.

By playing four men up, the Boss showed that he is still looking at different ways in which the team can play. He has given himself another option, just as he did by playing Ray Wilkins as sweeper against Northern Ireland at Wembley last month. We are far more adaptable

than we have been before and the Boss is now able to change our style according to who we are playing.

I am the lucky one because in all the different systems, my role doesn't change.

But there was more to this trip than the game itself. It gave us an opportunity to have a look at the facilities we will be using during the World Cup and I can assure any England fan disturbed by the recent bad publicity over our hotel that there is nothing to worry about.

The England coach Don Howe and another member of the non-playing staff spent some time there during this visit and they came back with good reports. The Los Tamarises is a three-star hotel and Don reported that they were very well looked after and that the food was excellent.

It seems a homely place and frankly that is just what we are going to need. It is not too large and our party will virtually take it over during our stay.

It's nice that way because we can shut the world out when we want to. There will be a lot of pressure during the Finals and it is important that we are able to keep ourselves to ourselves when needs be.

Another good point is that it is only 10 minutes from the

airport and is situated out of the busy city centre. There's no chance of us being caught in traffic on the way to and from games.

The big hotel we stayed in for this trip is more luxurious. But to be honest, it is not the sort of place we would want to stay for long periods.

The people at Los Tamarises are really looking forward to England's visit and, despite what has been said, I think it seems ideal.

The other facilities that England will be using in Bilbao are also excellent. The dormitories where we will stay on the nights before our games cater for our every need with videos, table tennis and other diversions.

The training camp is fantastic and there is a golf course just up the road. All the centres that we will be using are nicely grouped on the same side of the city.

The ground itself could hardly be better. The crowd are close to the pitch, just as in many English grounds, and that will help us feel at home. And the playing surface is excellent.

All in all, it was a near-perfect trip and I believe we will feel the real benefit of it when we go back there.

On the domestic scene, the FA Cup Semi-Finals are played this Saturday and I'm going for an all-Midlands final.

Apart from Chelsea's win against Liverpool, there hasn't really been an upset in the Cup this year and I think Leicester are the team to do it.

Leicester have really put it together in the Cup and they must have a good chance against a Spurs side that will come out and attack them.

Alan Young always gives everything he's got up front — even when he's not playing well — and, with Gary Lineker, they make a good strike force. Southampton were knocked out by Leicester so I am speaking from first hand knowledge!

In the other game, QPR are going to have a job to stop Cyrille Regis. The big striker is full of confidence and goals at present and he could be the matchwinner, especially as QPR are not on their Omniturf pitch.

● Kevin Keegan was talking to Melynn Bagnall.

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CHRIS EARNS TOSH'S PRAISE

THE selection of young Swansea defender Chris Marustik in the full Welsh squad completes a remarkable season for the 20-year-old.

Manager John Toshack has been more than delighted with the way the youngster has taken his chance in the First Division.

He stepped in for Yugoslav international Dzemal Hadziabdic earlier this season and big Tosh says: "He has taken his chance well and has been giving some first class displays."

Such has been the youngster's progress that Welsh manager Mike England upgraded him into the full squad for the friendly in Spain.

Left out of that squad were experienced internationals Leighton Phillips (Charlton), Terry Yorath (Vancouver) and John Mahoney (Swansea).

It looks like the end of the road for the trio who have 166 caps between them.

TORONTO REUNION

JAN Moller, Bristol City's Swedish international goalkeeper, has linked up again with his former manager Bob Houghton.

Jan followed Houghton from Swedish club Malmö to Bristol City last year and has now signed for Canadian side Toronto Blizzard where the ex-City boss is coach.

The £85,000 fee involved will help City's financial plight.

BOTHAM STUMPED

ENGLAND cricket star Ian Botham made his season's debut for Fourth Division Scunthorpe... but he was hit for seven instead of six by title-chasing Wigan.

Les Bradd, with a hat-trick, and Peter Houghton, with two goals, had a field day as Wigan ran riot, but Botham had a hand in one of George Telfer's two consolation goals.



Aim for
Cannon
the first name in gas

ENGLAND players Trevor Brooking, Kenny Sansom and Alvin Martin (above) have signed a sponsorship contract with cooker manufacturers Cannon Gas.

It means that the firm will be supporting not only the England squad in Spain, but providing some money to the FA's Youth Trust for the benefit of many young players who attend the coaching scheme.

The England trio are pictured with five-year-old Paul Juson, a West Ham fan whose father is an assistant training officer with North Thames Gas.

GOALIES GALORE

WHEN it came to facing three different goalkeepers in a match, then Second Division Shrewsbury are more experienced than most.

For two years on the trot, they have faced three different goalkeepers in an FA Cup tie.

In their 5-2 Sixth Round defeat at Leicester recently, strikers Steve Lynex and Alan Young had spells in goal for the victors after an injury to Mark Wallington.

In the third round last season, Shrewsbury found a way past Andy Rankin, Steve Kindon and Mark Lillis in a 3-0 win at Leeds Road.

NO EXTENSION

THE Football League have decided not to extend the season despite the fact that 206 matches were postponed during the freeze-up in December and January.

HAWKER HITS

HIS OLD CLUB

FIVE years ago, Birmingham player Phil Hawker was a star in the Stoke youth team.

But last month he scored the winner for Birmingham against Stoke in a match that provided new Birmingham boss Ron Saunders with his first victory.

TURNER RETURNS

TO STUN SAINTS

SUNDERLAND goalkeeper Chris Turner marked his return to the First Division after a seven-month absence by helping his side to a crucial 2-0 defeat of leaders Southampton.

It was Sunderland's first home League win since the first week of the season, when they toppled League champions Aston Villa.

Chris played in goal that night but lost his place after the next game when Barry Siddall returned from America.

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CRACK-DOWN

... but Keith responds to the boss

ORIENT defender Keith Osgood (right) has revealed how his game has improved under the strict discipline of manager Ken Knighton.

Keith, a £15,000 buy from Derby, was astonished at what he described as "all the little white envelopes floating around" when he arrived at Brisbane Road.

He explained: "I was puzzled at first but one of the lads told me there were £25 fines for being late.

"But they have all got used to it now and the manager has won their respect.

"When I first met Ken, he made it clear that if I did well he would look after me and, for the first time since I left Tottenham, I've got the confidence of knowing I'm a first team regular.

"I'm also back in London among family and friends and that's helped to make me more relaxed, and consequently, a better player."



Match Chat

Compiled by Melvyn Beck

GREGOR GETS A SIX-MONTH BAN

RANGERS player Gregor Stevens has been banned for six months by the Scottish FA after being sent off in a recent friendly against Kilmarnock.

He was ordered off after an incident involving Kilmarnock's Albert Morrison, who sustained a broken leg.

The 27-year-old former Leicester player has been sent off five times and booked 19 times since joining Rangers three years ago.

KEMP MAKES

A BEE-LINE

FOR BRENTFORD

STRIKER David Kemp is gradually becoming a player worthy of the tag 'Have boots will travel'.

Having been out of favour at Plymouth, where he was top scorer last season, he spent a loan spell with Third Division rivals Gillingham.

But nothing came of that temporary move and so he was moved on to Brentford.

And he marked his debut for the Londoners with their goal in the 1-1 draw at Southend.

NO CUP FINAL FOR ARDILES

OSSIE Ardiles is unlikely to play in the FA Cup Final if holders Tottenham make it to Wembley again for the fourth time in less than twelve months.

The little Argentinian has been given special permission by his national team manager Luis Cesar Menotti to play in this Saturday's Semi-Final with Leicester.

But then the midfield architect will be joining the World Cup holders to prepare for the defence of their trophy in Spain this summer.

GRAHAM FOLLOWS

BRADY'S FOOTSTEPS

GRAHAM Quinn, Wolves' 17-year-old defender, is hoping he will be as big in the game as his old acquaintance Liam Brady.

Young Graham played for the same Dublin schoolboy club as the Juventus star.

And he's certainly got off on the right foot by skippering Ireland Boys and playing for the youth team.

BAD FOR BOBBY

NEWCASTLE striker Bobby Shinton looks like being out for at least a month with a fractured cheekbone.

And that's a big blow for the ex-Manchester City forward who was injured while on loan to Third Division Millwall.

But it's expected that Millwall boss Peter Anderson will attempt to sign Shinton on a permanent basis when he's fit.

DYNAMO IN DEMAND

CRACK Russian side Moscow Dynamo have been on a short trip to England to help reward the loyalty and bravery of two First Division players.

A crowd of 13,000 saw them defeat Wolves 4-2 at Molineux in a testimonial match for striker John Richards.

And John was on target for the struggling First Division club along with his striking partner Andy Gray.

The Russians were then held to a 2-2 draw by Ipswich in a testimonial game for England defender Kevin Beattie, who has been forced to quit after a succession of knee injuries.

Kevin, who played at the heart of the Ipswich defence with Allan Hunter for the first time since the 1978 FA Cup Final, collected around £30,000 from the match.

The Ipswich goals came from John Wark and Eric Gates.

SAD FOR STEVE

STEVE Moran, Southampton's talented 21-year-old striker, may be out of action for the rest of the season which is a blow to the Saints' First Division Championship aspirations.

He recently underwent a spinal operation after suffering an accident during the January freeze-up.

Said Southampton manager Lawrie McMenemy: "It's a great loss to the team and a sad blow for Steve himself, but he's young enough to bounce back.

"He may be out for the rest of the season, but at present we can't say for sure."

GLANVILLE'S GREATEST

AWARD-WINNING Sunday Times football correspondent Brian Glanville has produced a unique personal selection of his greatest players in a paperback book called simply 'Brian Glanville's Book of Footballers'.

The players appear strictly alphabetically, so the potential stars of the 1982 World Cup, Ardiles, Keegan and Kempes, rub shoulders with legendary greats such as Steve Bloomer and Lord Kinnaird.

The book is published by Puffin and costs 1.25.

MIKE'S MILESTONE

FORMER England striker Mike Channon made his 500th League appearance for Southampton in the home clash with West Brom last month.

But it was not an ideal match to celebrate with the leaders being held to a goalless draw.

CARDIFF CELEBRATE

THERE was a double celebration at Cardiff after their priceless point at Shrewsbury in a Division Two relegation battle.

Former Manchester City defender Gary Bennett scored his first goal for the Welsh club and it presented new manager Len Ashurst with his first point.

FA Cup Semi-Finals

HIGHBURY HORRORS!



WEST Brom return to Highbury with the nightmare memory of their last FA cup Semi-Final there still fresh in their minds.

It was just four years ago and Albion, the team in form, were red-hot favourites to sweep Ipswich out of the competition and reach Wembley. It didn't happen that way. Bobby Robson's men won 3-1 and went on to take the Cup.

West Brom's England rated full-back Derek Statham played that day and he recalled: "We just froze. We were determined to show people what we could do, but in the end we just didn't play."

Other survivors of that side are skipper John Wile, Ally Robertson, Ally Brown and newly-capped England striker Cyrille Regis.

Outcome

"When I heard the game was being played at Arsenal, my mind went back to that Semi-Final," admitted Derek. "But this time I hope there's a different outcome."

Albion face Second Division Queen's Park Rangers and are once again quoted as favourites to reach the Final.

"When you get to the last four, you know you're in for a hard game whichever division the opposing team comes from. We know from bitter experience that it's the team who performs on the day that wins."

"You may have the best team on paper, but that counts for nothing on the pitch. In our Semi-Final

against Ipswich, they simply played us off the park.

"Queen's Park Rangers are going to be a tough side to beat. They've got some tremendously skilful players in their side."

"Former England midfield star Tony Currie is one of the best players to come out of this country in modern times. It's unfortunate that players like him don't get the international recognition they deserve."

In form

"It's important that we stop him playing because if we do that, we go some way towards stopping the team performing."

"Clive Allen and Simon Stainrod have been in goalscoring form this season and we'll have to keep a close eye on them."

Even though QPR fans won't have to travel out of London for the tie, Derek doesn't believe the 'Baggies' fans will be outnumbered at Highbury.

"Rangers aren't famed for a large following and I'm sure Albion fans will be there in numbers. Thousands turned up for our last Semi-Final in London. I didn't realise we had so many fans."

Albion players are desperate to reach the Final after coming so close to Wembley in this year's League Cup.

"We were bitterly disappointed to lose the Semi-Final against Spurs and it's made us doubly determined to get there this time. We're lucky to have another chance so soon," added Derek, who's made over 150 League

HOW THEY GOT THERE WEST BROMWICH ALBION.

THIRD ROUND:

WBA (1) 3 (Mackenzie 16, King pen 46, Whitehead 56)
BLACKBURN (0) 2 (Garner 68, 84). Att: 17,540. Star Man: *STATHAM 8.

FOURTH ROUND:

GILLINGHAM (0) 0 WBA (0) 1 (Statham 89). Att: 16,000. Star Man: *STATHAM 8.

FIFTH ROUND:

WBA (1) 1 (Regis 24) NORWICH (0) 0. Att: 18,867. Star Man: *REGIS 8.

SIXTH ROUND:

WBA (1) 2 (Regis 18, Owen 66) COVENTRY (0) 0. Att: 27,825. Star Man: *KING 9.

Goals scored: 7

Top scorer: Regis 2

Goals conceded: 2

appearances for Albion.

"The players were pleased with the draw because we were keen to avoid Tottenham. They're the side on song at the moment. If we have to play them, I'd prefer it to be in the Final."

"Tottenham look favourites to get to the Final after drawing Leicester, but Jock Wallace's men are tremendous cup fighters."

"Jock has done a great job at Filbert Street and has built up a good young side," added Derek.

FRANCIS FORECASTS A DRAW

COVENTRY'S Gerry Francis is no slouch as a tipster.

He forecast that Spurs, Leicester and Queen's Park Rangers would all reach the FA Cup Semi-Finals.

But even he admits he's undecided about the outcome of Saturday's clash between his former club QPR and West Brom — the team that ended his new club's run in the Sixth Round.

Says the former England skipper, who recently became a permanent fixture at Highfield Road after a spell on loan:

"I don't believe it would be a shock if Rangers won, but I think it will be very close."

"Anything can happen in a Semi-Final, though I feel Rangers are equipped to win the match on the day, anyway."

"But on the other hand, West Brom have already lost one Semi-Final this season (against Spurs in the League Cup) and it would be an absolute disaster if they lost in another, so they will be really on their toes."

Defeat

"Had they not tasted Semi-Final defeat once this season, West Brom might have taken Rangers too easily on Saturday."

"Now they know what it feels like to go out when you are so close to Wembley they won't want to repeat the experience."

"Both sides have quality players and while West Brom have more experience of big matches, Rangers have plenty of experienced professionals themselves in players like Tony Currie, Glenn Roeder and Ian Gillard."

"I'm really pleased for Ian, who has been such a great servant to the club and I'd love to see him get to Wembley."

"I wasn't over-impressed with West Brom when they beat us in the Sixth Round, but they included three or four players who obviously weren't match fit."

"On their day, they are a very good side."

"It's going to be a very interesting game and if I'm forced to pick a result, I would have to go for the draw. If so, it may just turn out in West Brom's favour in the replay."

"But it doesn't look as though QPR will get promotion now, so the Cup is the only thing left for them and they'll be battling all the way."

ALL THE WAY TO WEMBLEY

WE'RE backing West Brom to reach Wembley as our adopted FA Cup team.

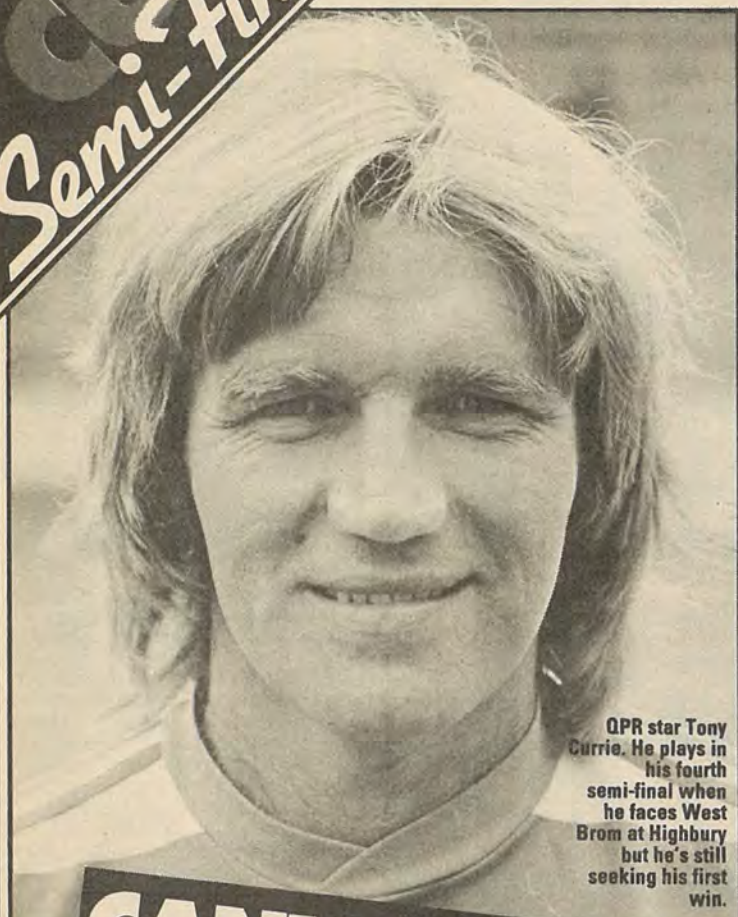
Following tiny Penrith, Doncaster and then Norwich, we're now right behind Albion to reach the twin towers.

And to kick off this four-page FA Cup Semi-Final special, we talk to West Brom defender Derek Statham about his Wembley hopes.

On the other pages you'll find interviews with a star player from each of the other three Semi-Final teams . . . a guide to how they got there . . . and the added bonus of comments from stars whose Wembley dreams were shattered in the Sixth Round.

CHIPS DOWN FOR CURRIE

FA Cup
Semi-Finals



QPR star Tony Currie. He plays in his fourth semi-final when he faces West Brom at Highbury but he's still seeking his first win.

QPR's former England international Tony Currie knows only too well the agony of semi-final defeat.

In his days at Leeds United, Tony tasted a hat-trick of semi-final defeats in the space of just three years.

And as the midfield star prepared to face West Brom at Highbury, he revealed he'd never given up hope of playing in a cup final at Wembley.

"I've never given up hope of an appearance at Wembley for my club. Any team that enters a cup competition has a chance of winning it," said Tony.

Tony's series of cup disappointments started back in 1977 when the Elland Road side were knocked out of the FA Cup at the last four stage by eventual winners Manchester United.

A year later, he was again within striking distance of the famous twin towers, only for Leeds to be beaten 7-4 on aggregate in the League Cup by Forest.

His last appearance in the semis was in 1979 when Leeds were beaten 3-2 on aggregate by Southampton in the same competition.

"I've told the Queen's Park Rangers' players that the first time is the worst. I'm just hoping that they don't have to experience it this time," said Tony, who made 102 League appearances for Leeds before moving to the London club in 1979.

"I can't describe my feelings of dejection when we were beaten by Manchester United.

Fortunately, it's not so bad second and third time around."

Rangers start Saturday's tie as underdogs against First Division West Brom, but Tony knows that the cup semi-finals have a habit of turning the formbook upside down.

"We're not going to be easy meat for them. Once we're on the pitch, anything can happen. There will be two good teams battling it out at Highbury.

"At this stage of the competition, there are no easy teams left so we had to be happy with the draw.

"I don't know a great deal about Albion but Cyrille Regis and Derek Statham have been earning rave reports this season so we'll be watching out for them."

The Semi-Final also gives Tony a chance to meet up with his old QPR midfield mate Andy King, who was transferred to The Hawthorns earlier this season.

Tony said: "Andy rang me up a couple of days after the draw was made and said he was looking forward to the match. It will be the

first time we've met since he left Loftus Road."

But the niceties will be strictly reserved until after the game because there's so much at stake.

QPR are in the Semi-Finals of the FA Cup for the first time in their history — their previous best showing in the competition was the Sixth Round.

On their way to the last four, they've won all but one of their games at home... on the controversial Omniture.

But Tony maintains that the synthetic turf has made no difference to their performances whatsoever. He said: "We're sick of people talking about the plastic surface.

"Critics have said it gives us an unfair advantage, but I just don't agree."

Of the other Semi-Final at Villa Park, Tony believes that Cup holders Spurs will once again grace Wembley in the Final.

"I'm a great Spurs fan. The football they've played in the last year has been unbelievable.

"But I regard Leicester as the 'Spurs of the Second Division'. They are a very skilful side and won't be easy to beat.

"They are in a false position in Division Two because they've got so many games in hand. They'll end up having a big say in the promotion race," added Tony, who was capped 17 times for England.

CANNON TAKES ALBION

WEST Brom's First Division status will count for nothing at Highbury on Saturday, according to Jim Cannon.

Says the tough-tackling Palace defender: "It doesn't matter that Rangers are a Second Division side — it wouldn't matter if they were a Third or Fourth Division side.

"The fact that it is a Semi-Final is a great leveller and QPR could quite well reach Wembley."

Jim has faced both sides this season — West Brom knocking Palace out of the League Cup and Rangers ending his side's Wembley dreams in the Sixth Round of the FA Cup.

Upset

He says: "West Brom are very strong, but if any team can upset them, then it could be Rangers.

QPR have never before reached an FA Cup Semi-Final, but Jim doesn't see that as a disadvantage.

"QPR still have players of experience and, while West Brom are a very good side with Cyrille Regis on song, it could be a very open game.

"It can only help QPR that the match is being played in London... although it would help them



Crystal Palace defender Jim Cannon, who believes that QPR could upset West Brom in the clash at Highbury.

even more if it was being played on Omniture!

"But having said that, West Brom have had one bite at the Wembley apple in the Semi-Finals of the League Cup and they won't want two bites without getting something.

"I don't think losing to Spurs in the League Cup will mean them raising their game any more, but their experience may just see them through."

HOW THEY GOT THERE QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS

THIRD ROUND:

QPR (0) 1 (Stainrod 70)
MIDDLESBROUGH (1) 1
(Thomson 8). Att: 12,100. Star Man: 'ROEDER 8.

THIRD ROUND REPLAY:

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 2 (Otto 53, Thomson pen 56) QPR (2) 3
(Stainrod 21, 39, Neill 117)
(a.e.t.). Att: 14,819. Star Man: 'STAINROD 8.

FOURTH ROUND:

BLACKPOOL (0) 0 QPR (0) 0. Att: 10,227. Star Man: 'ALLEN 9.

FOURTH ROUND REPLAY:

QPR (2) 5 (Allen 26, 54, 60, 77, Stainrod pen 43) BLACKPOOL (0) 1 (Entwhistle 71). Att: 11,712. Star Man: 'ALLEN 9.

FIFTH ROUND:

QPR (2) 3 (Stainrod 27, Allen 37, Howe 64) GRIMSBY (0) 1 (Moore K. 72). Att: 13,344. Star Man: 'FLANAGAN 8.

SIXTH ROUND:

QPR (0) 1 (Allen 88) CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0. Att: 24,653. Star Man: 'GREGORY 8.

Goals: 13

Top scorers: Allen 6,

Stainrod 5.

Goals conceded: 5

FA Cup Semi-Finals



Graham Roberts — determined to make up for the disappointment of missing the League Cup Final.

WEMBLEY OUTCAST ...but Roberts has another final chance

SPURS' tough defender Graham Roberts is determined to make up for the disappointment of being a Wembley outcast.

Graham failed to make the team for the League Cup Final at Wembley and had to sit it out on the sidelines as his team-mates were beaten 3-1 by Liverpool.

Following injury and suspension, Graham — who just two years ago was playing non-League football — found his way back into the side blocked by Welsh skipper Paul Price.

"I was very upset not to play in the League Cup Final. I'm determined to make up for it by playing in the FA Cup Final.

"It's up to me to prove to manager Keith Burkinshaw that I'm the man he should play," said Graham.

Although basically a defender, Graham showed his versatility against Southampton when he deputised for Argentinian international Ossie Ardiles in the Spurs midfield... and scored a hat-trick!

"I just couldn't believe the space the Southampton defence gave me. I kept making runs from the back and no-one was there to pick me up.

"I'd never scored more than once in a League game before so it was a tremendous thrill to notch up a hat-trick.

"But I'd have swapped those three goals for a regular run at the

back. I'm a defender and that's the position I prefer."

With Tottenham still involved in the League Championship race and the European Cup-Winners' Cup as well as the FA Cup, every match is like a final for the London side.

"We won't be treating the Leicester match any differently to a League game. We've now reached the stage of the season where every match is vitally important.

"Obviously the Spurs players are anxious to retain the FA Cup, but the most important trophy is the title. That's the one we want to win.

"The League has got to be Leicester's priority, too. They must be desperate to get back into the First Division, although that won't make them any easier to beat," added Graham, who joined Spurs from Weymouth.

"Leicester beat us twice last season in the League and I was particularly impressed with Scottish striker Jim Melrose. It surprises me that he can't get a regular place in the side.

"His fellow Scot Alan Young is also a man to watch out for. He's a rugged, strong player.

"But we've got plenty of experience of playing in cup semi-finals and that should give us an advantage."

Spurs travel to Villa Park for the tie and it will be the first time that

the Cup holders have played outside the capital in the competition this season.

"I was talking to a couple of the Aston Villa lads recently and they said that the pitch wasn't in very good condition. It has a lot of sand on it and is very heavy.

"People have said that it could affect our performance because we like a smooth surface on which we can display our skills, but I don't agree.

"We've had to play on some heavy surfaces this winter and haven't done too badly.

"Leicester will find us a completely different proposition from the side they beat twice last term. We've learnt from our mistakes and have tightened up considerably at the back."

England 'keeper Ray Clemence has taken much of the credit for Spurs' improved defensive record this season and Graham agrees that a lot of it is down to the former Liverpool idol.

"He's helped to make us more solid at the back. Now everyone in the team is helping each other out."

If Spurs manage to reach their fifth Wembley in a year, Graham believes they'll be meeting fellow First Division side West Brom.

"If the game was being played on QPR's pitch, I'd go for them to win. As it's not, I reckon Albion should go through by two clear goals."

HOW THEY GOT THERE TOTTENHAM

Third Round:

SPURS (1) 1 (Crooks 14)
ARSENAL (0) 0. Att: 38,241. Star Man: *CROOKS 9.

Fourth Round:

SPURS (0) 1 (Crooks 72) LEEDS (0) 0. Att: 46,126. Star Man: *CROOKS 8.

Fifth Round:

SPURS (1) 1 (Falco 33) ASTON VILLA (0) 0. Att: 43,490. Star Man: *HODDLE 9.

Sixth Round:

CHELSEA (1) 2 (Fillery 43, Mayes 64) SPURS (0) 3 (Archibald 48, Hoddle 55, Hazard 63). Att: 42,557. Star Man: *HODDLE 9.

Goals: 6. Top scorer:

Crooks 2. Goals conceded: 2.

LEE TIPS SPURS

FORMER Spurs striker Colin Lee believes Leicester must shackle Glenn Hoddle if they are to stand a chance at Villa Park on Saturday.

Says the Chelsea front-runner, who watched from the stands as the 'Blues' were beaten 3-2 by Tottenham in the Sixth Round:

"Leicester have definitely got to stop Glenn from playing.

"I know it's easier said than done, but if they can manage to contain him, they stand a chance.

"Leicester's players must all give 100 per cent and more, which I am sure they will under Jock Wallace, but even then Tottenham have become so used to teams raising their game against them.

"I have to say I think Spurs will win. Leicester will obviously try and close them down, but I think the holders have too much class.

"Spurs didn't play as well as I know they can against Chelsea in the last round.

"In fact, I think if we'd had a full side out, we could have beaten them.

"But I watched their game against Southampton recently and they were in a different class again."

Cup combat

FEW, if any, FA Cup-ties down the ages can compare with that fought out by Spurs and Leicester at Filbert Street just seven months before the start of World War One. Incredibly, the final scoreline was 5-5!

Spurs won the replay and claim six victories from the seven occasions the two sides have met in the Cup. The results read:

1914 — Spurs 2 Leicester 0 (after 5-5); 1928 — Leicester 0 Spurs 3; 1948 — Spurs 5 Leicester 2; 1957 — Spurs 2 Leicester 0; 1958 — Spurs 4 Leicester 0; 1961 — Spurs 2 Leicester 0 (Final); 1974 Leicester 1 Spurs 0.

FA Cup Semi-Finals

Wallington's workaholics

LEICESTER skipper Mark Wallington's response to those who have already written off his team's chances against Tottenham is clear and precise:

"If we thought the same, we would have called off the Semi-Final and given them a bye to the Final," says the long-serving 'keeper who has been fighting a fitness battle since being injured against Shrewsbury in the last round.

"We know they are a good side. They have some class players, but we are not frightened.

"We have the greatest respect for them, but, on the day, it's who produces the best form and we are quietly confident.

"We are hoping that our hard-working style will be good enough on the day.

"We are playing well at the moment and the Cup run has lifted us in the Second Division promotion stakes.

"We take every game as it comes and we thrive on hard work. That's our style.

"There's no doubt that the adrenalin and the butterflies will be there on the day.

"Tottenham are more used to the big occasion than us, but I see no reason why players should freeze on days like this.

"In fact, the sense of the occasion might well lift us to greater things.

"We've got plenty of sensible players in the side. It is a young side, but we've been together three years and we are full of running and confidence."

But for a while, Mark wondered whether he would figure in one of the club's biggest days in years.

He was hurt in the first half of the Quarter-Final tie with Shrewsbury and limped out of the match with Leicester 2-1 down.

"I felt that our Cup hopes had gone when I went off. But the lads responded magnificently to the setback and to win 5-2 without a recognised 'keeper was tremendous.

"I didn't see any of the second half because I was in the dressing room having stitches in a thigh wound, but the cheers of the crowd told me that we were on the way into the Semi-Final.

"To play in a Cup Final would be the highlight of my career and it would act as a tremendous boost to the club and the supporters.



Mark Wallington — "We are not frightened by Spurs."

SEMI-FINAL STATISTICS

	FA Cup wins	Finals	Semi- Finals
WBA	5	10	18
Spurs	6	6	10
Leicester	0	4	6
QPR	0	0	0

How they got there LEICESTER

Third Round:

LEICESTER (2) 3 (Young 18, 25, Lineker 83) SOUTHAMPTON (1) 1 (Keegan 44). Att: 20,589. Star Man: YOUNG 9.

Fourth Round:

HEREFORD (0) 0 LEICESTER (1) 1 (May 28). Att: 10,480. Star Man: LYNEK 8.

Fifth Round:

LEICESTER (0) 2 (O'Neill 50, Young 80) WATFORD (0) 0. Att: 27,991. Star Man: O'NEILL 8.

Sixth Round:

LEICESTER (2) 5 (May 5, Cross (og) 45, Melrose 60, 90, Lineker 69) SHREWSBURY (2) 2 (Bates 38, Biggins 44). Att: 29,117. Star Man: MELROSE 8.

Goals scored: 11.

Top scorers: Young 3, May, Melrose 2.

Goals conceded: 3.

Match columnist David Cross gives his Cup verdict on Page 32 and, on Page 27, we preview the Semi-Finals of the Scottish FA Cup.

And don't miss next week's 'Match' for the first colour pictures from the big matches at Villa Park and Highbury.

LEICESTER WILL BE UNLUCKY

says Bob

SHREWSBURY goalkeeper Bob Wardle was beaten five times by the Leicester attack in the Sixth Round.

But it is a defender and a midfielder that he picks out as vital to Leicester's chances against Spurs at Villa Park on Saturday.

"Leicester are going to need all the experience of Eddie Kelly in midfield and Mark Wallington in goal.

"With those two players fully fit, I give Leicester an even chance of winning.

"I was very impressed by Leicester in the last round. To lose their regular goalkeeper and still put up such a tough performance

says a lot for the players and the inspiration of manager Jack Wallace.

"Although he may not be turning it on every week, I like the look of striker Jim Melrose. Andy Peake's another good player and I've always rated Mark Wallington highly.

"As for Spurs, they are still playing with a lot of confidence. They are a great side going forward and must be one of the

two best teams in the country at the moment.

"They create so many good attacks with their quick one-two's and their experience of the big occasion must help them.

"I believe Leicester are capable of putting Spurs off their stride on the day, but I think the Cup holders have just too many individuals to contain.

"Leicester will be hustling and bustling all the way and if they can nick a goal, it could be a question of whether they can hang on.

"It would be good for the Second Division if Leicester could go on to win the Cup, but I have to go for Spurs."



match weekly **TWELVE WONDERS OF THE WORLD**

No1

JESUS MARIA ZAMORA THE BRAINS OF SPAIN

SPAIN'S chances in the World Cup could hinge on the form of their midfield general Jesus Zamora.

Such is his influence in the hosts' set-up that his name can be uttered in the same breath as Brazil's Zico and Argentina's Diego Maradona.

The 27-year-old Real Sociedad tactician is such an important cog in his country's side that manager Pepe Santamaria says of him:

"He is a player of very great value to the team. I have great confidence in him."

"He combines the important qualities a modern player needs: an exquisite technique and plenty of physical strength and force."

"He is also the ideal player to put in the middle of a team to do the organising. He has matured a lot too. And he goes on getting better. Even now, at 27, he is very consistent."

It was Zamora's brilliance last season which enabled Real Sociedad to pip the giants of Real Madrid for the Spanish Championship.

And if World Cup rivals Northern Ireland needed any proof of his ability, then they saw it at Wembley last summer when he starred in Spain's 2-1 win over England.

The Spanish fans regard him as the natural successor in the number ten shirt to Luis Suarez and his multi-talents have also attracted the likes of Inter-Milan.

He's a slightly-built ball player in the true tradition of an old-fashioned inside forward.

He has the ability to run all day, pass with both feet and score goals. He can battle with the best of them and organise.

If he has a weakness, it is in the aerial department and in defensive situations. Like the old-style inside forward, he is more comfortable with the ball at his feet and a defence on the retreat.

His money for the World Cup is riding on the likes of Brazil, Argentina and West Germany, and he admits that it won't be easy for Spain in the opening round.

"Our group is not as easy as everyone thinks. There is no doubt that Yugoslavia will be our most difficult rivals and the team we must beat."

"But Northern Ireland are not going to be easy. They are a British team and that means they will be hard and difficult to beat."

"However, I think Spain are good enough to reach the final stages, not just because we are at home, but I think because we have a good team."



match
WEEKLY



GLENN ROEDER QPR

ITALIANS PLAY FOR A LIRE JACKPOT

ITALY's players are likely to be on £10,000 a man to reach the second round of the World Cup.

Italy, beaten by Brazil for third place in Argentina, face Poland, Peru and the Cameroon in their group.

It's not a difficult group on paper, but the Italian preparations have been affected by internal wranglings and major doubts about important stars.

It appears that veteran goalkeeper Dino Zoff will skipper the side, but there are serious doubts about three key players.

In midfield, they could be without Giancarlo Antognini, the elegant stylist from Florence,

who fractured his skull last year in a clash with Genoa goalkeeper Silvano Martini. He's back in training but may not reach full fitness and form in time.

In attack, they are waiting on two star men — Roberto Bettega and Paolo Rossi, both of Juventus.

Bettega is suffering from knee ligament problems and Rossi is still suspended for his part in the great Totonero betting and bribery scandal in 1980.

■ FRANCE's midfield general Michel Platini has issued a warning to their first World Cup Finals opponents, England.

After an outstanding performance in the 2-0 win over Italy — their first over them since 1920 — he said: "We don't fear anyone and we believe we can go through the first round easily. England are not well prepared."

The French fans were in raptures over their side's defeat of Italy, and in particular the way Platini led ace defender Marco Tardelli a merry dance. Confidence was further boosted by the 4-0 win over N. Ireland.

Belgians in the limelight

BELGIUM manager Guy Thys is keen to get the maximum amount of publicity for his side in Spain.

He wants the Belgian press to be housed in the team's headquarters to avoid delays and phone calls.

He has decided not to bother watching El Salvador at all until the Central American qualifiers meet Hungary in Spain in their first game.

Belgium kick off the Finals with a match against the holders Argentina in Barcelona on June 13.

WORLD CUP '82

ONLY
10
WEEKS
TO GO

A
to
Z

TURN to Pages 18 and 19 for Melvyn Beck's A-Z of the World Cup Finals.

Scrapbook

Peru ace may sign for Leeds

PERU's top player, Julio Cesar Uribe, wants to play in England next season and follow in the footsteps of the most famous South American exports Osvaldo Ardiles and Ricky Villa.

The 24-year-old player claims that Leeds have agreed terms with him.

"I have given them my word that they have first option. The World Cup will put me in the showcase. It is my great chance to show I am the best," he says.

Only recently, Leeds parted company with Argentinian midfielder player Alex Sabella, who returned home in a £100,000 deal with Estudiantes.

Right: Julio Cesar Uribe, Peru's finest player, shows the ball skills that have attracted First Division Leeds.



Spain will reign says Gallego

REAL Madrid midfield star Ricardo Gallego, scorer of one of Spain's goals in the recent 3-0 friendly defeat of Scotland, has joined the growing army who believe the hosts have an outstanding chance of winning the World Cup this summer.

"If we didn't believe we would win the World Cup, we wouldn't think it was worthwhile going out to play," he says.

"Maybe we need to run a bit more in midfield and we can improve on that, but I think Spain has the basis of a team good enough to win the World Cup."

Gallego's views were echoed by the legendary Russian goalkeeper Lev Yashin, who was recently in England with the famous Moscow Dynamo side.

He said he believed that European teams had the best chance of winning and selected Spain as the most likely winners with West Germany and Russia among his other fancies.

MASSED MEDIA

MORE than 7,000 journalists have been accredited for the World Cup Finals, according to the man in charge of the press organisation, Mr Jose Maria Calle.

About 3,750 writers and reporters have been accredited; 750 photographers and 3,000 radio and television journalists.

Focus on the Ipswich youngster fighting a three-way battle for regular first team football . . .

STRIKER Mich D'Avray isn't only fighting Paul Mariner for the Ipswich number nine shirt — he's up against Dutch midfield masters Frans Thijssen and Arnold Muhren too!

The Johannesburg-born forward knows that if the Dutch duo are on the teamsheet, he'll be in the reserves.

Football League regulations don't allow clubs to field more than two overseas players in the same team and that's meant Mich has been restricted to just a handful of League games over the last two years.

"It can be very frustrating. No matter how well I play, I know I've got no chance of making the side if Arnold and Frans are selected.

"It was terrible last season when Paul Mariner was out. The manager couldn't drop the Dutchmen because they were playing well, so he changed the striking formation."

Mich is now enjoying his first extended run in the First Division following Paul Mariner's achilles tendon operation and a calf injury to Frans Thijssen. But he knows he could be back to square one as

A HITCH FOR MICH

soon as the Dutchman recovers.

However, there could be a bright spot on the horizon for the 20-year-old. This summer, he'll have lived in England for five years and that entitles him to apply for British citizenship.

Mich isn't looking that far ahead, however. He's just intent on helping Town's push for the First Division title.

"Although some of the results have gone against us, I've enjoyed my run in the team. It's a completely different world to the

reserves.

"Obviously I'm disappointed that I haven't managed to get on the scoresheet, but I've been getting into the right positions and setting up chances for others.

"In fact, against Southampton at Portman Road I laid on four for Alan Brazil. I'm sure I'll start to hit the net if I keep playing well."

Ipswich manager Bobby Robson has once again had to bring in his reserves after a cruel crop of injuries to his top players. At various stages of the season, Paul Cooper, Terry Butcher, Frans Thijssen, Paul Mariner, Russell

Osman and Eric Gates have all been out.

"The young players have done well. We're still well placed in the Championship race and it looks as if most of the senior players will be back for the final run-in."

Mich hopes that Paul Mariner gets fit quickly — even though he'll be battling to keep him out of the side.

"I'll make it as hard as I can for Paul to reclaim his place, but I'd love to see him fit again.

"I feel sorry for Paul because I know how much he wanted to have a good season with the World Cup Finals on the horizon. I hope the injury hasn't harmed his England chances."

Mich, who made his full League debut against Coventry in December 1979, was just 15 when he packed his bags and travelled half-way across the world to try his luck as a professional footballer.

He was discovered by former Ipswich and England midfield star Colin Viljoen (now at Chelsea), who saw the youngster while he was on holiday in South Africa.

Crazy

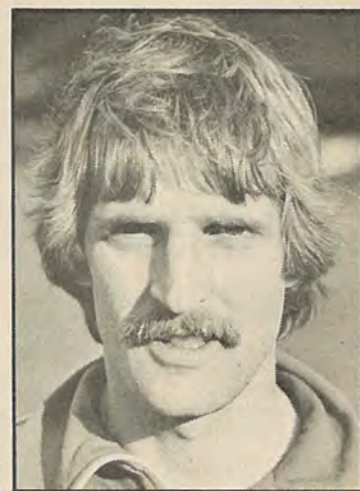
"At the time, I was going to join QPR, but when Ipswich expressed an interest I changed my mind," said Mich.

"Even though I lived thousands of miles away, I'd heard that Ipswich were a friendly club and had a good youth policy. The thought of living in the country also appealed to me more than living in London.

"I was crazy on English football as a kid and I knew that it was the only place to make the grade as a professional," added Mich.

"Obviously I was homesick during the early days, but I never regretted my decision to leave my family and live in England. Now I want to repay the club's faith in me and help them win the title."

Mich D'Avray (dark shirt) heads for goal against Southampton — "I'm sure I'll start to hit the net if I can keep playing well."



Above: Frans Thijssen — Mich could be back to square one as soon as the Dutch midfielder recovers from injury and stakes his claim for a place in the Ipswich first team.

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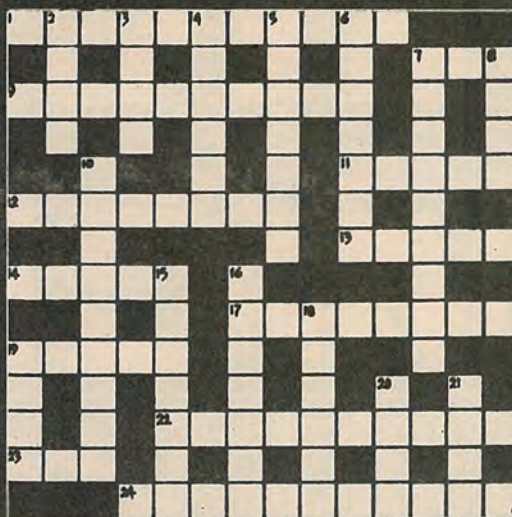
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SOCCERWORD



ACROSS

1. This striker crossed London from QPR to West Ham United at the start of last season (4,7)
7. Mr Stokoe, say (3)
9. Former Aston Villa and West Bromwich Albion forward who joined Norwich City this year (4,6)
11. Barnsley bought international Ian from Crystal Palace (5)
12. Evening matches need to be this (8)
13. This country will be crowded in June and July! (5)
14. Mansfield's ground is --- Mill (5)
17. He made his 700th League appearance in February (4,4)
19. A rocky climb for midfielder Eddie who has played for Burnley, Tranmere, Rochdale, and others (5)
22. 'Len Sealman' (anagram) — this midfielder made over 300 appearances for Brentford up to the mid-1970s (4,6)
23. Not Sealman but Sealey (3)
24. Famous Argentinian club for which Alex Sabella left Leeds this year (11)

DOWN

2. Old Irishman Patsy Gallagher, who became famous with Celtic, was nicknamed 'The Mighty ---' (4)
3. Any one on a football pitch must not be more than five inches wide (4)
4. He has been transferred from Norwich City to Manchester City and back again since last season (6)
5. Peter ---, who played for Manchester City, Derby, Doncaster (as manager), and others, is considered one of Ireland's greatest-ever players (7)
6. Winners of the Scottish FA Cup last season (7)
7. A sudden attack made out of a defensive situation (9)
8. The buzzers of Brentford (4)
10. Famous Dublin club (9)
15. Pointless results (7)
16. One of the men Nottingham Forest have paid a million pounds for (7)
18. 'Sean is ...' (anagram) — a former captain of Spain, capped many times (6)
19. Players often --- for the ball (4)
20. Mr Biley, maybe (4)
21. Famous Brazilian who appears in every top eleven (4)

CUP QUIZ

TO celebrate Semi-Final day, here's a special FA Cup quiz to test your knowledge of this season's competition.

- 1 Which First Division team knocked out last season's runners-up Manchester City?
- 2 Aston Villa beat Notts County 6-0 in the Third Round. Who scored a hat-trick?
- 3 Leicester used three goalkeepers in their Quarter-Final tie against Shrewsbury at Filbert Street. Who were they?
- 4 Against which team did Watford start their giantkilling exploits?
- 5 Clive Allen helped QPR to the Semi-Finals with four goals in a Fourth Round replay against which Fourth Division club?
- 6 Which Second Division team ended Liverpool's FA Cup run.
- 7 Name the West Brom star who could be returning to Wembley after scoring in last year's FA Cup Final replay?
- 8 Which non-League team held First Division Brighton to a 0-0 draw in the Third Round?
- 9 Which Second Division team beat Nottingham Forest in a shock 3-1 win at the City Ground?
- 10 Who scored Second Division Shrewsbury's winner against Cup hopefuls Ipswich at Gay Meadow.

NEXT WEEK: Win a copy of the official England World Cup brochure. It's another great free-to-enter Match Weekly competition.

STOP THE ACTION



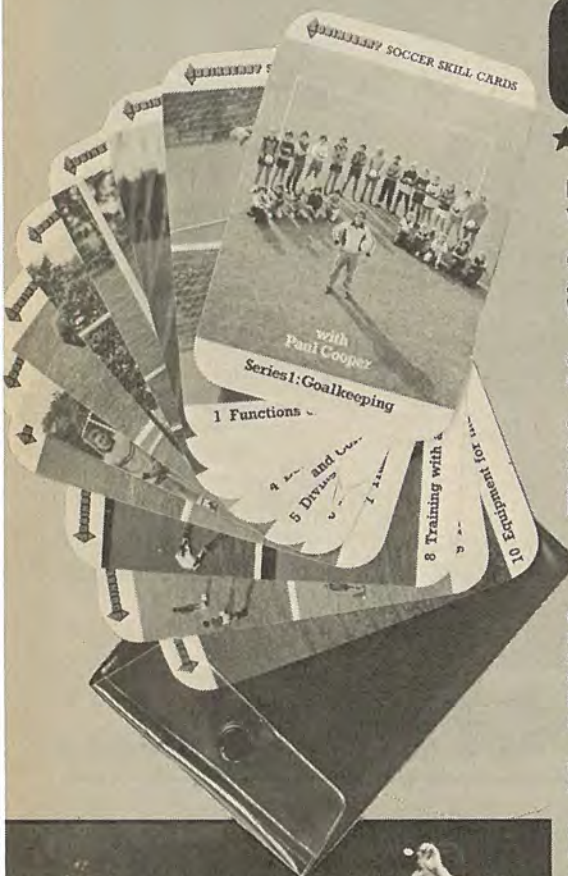
LIVERPOOL retained the League Cup at Wembley last month by beating Tottenham. Here's action from last year's Final replay. What can you remember of the match?

- 1 Where was the replay played?
- 2 Who scored the opening goal?

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LET Ipswich star Paul Cooper improve your goalkeeping skills.

We're giving away TEN sets of Paul Cooper Goalkeeping Skillcards in another great FREE to enter Match Weekly competition.

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Each of the sets contain ten training cards carrying full colour pictures of Paul in action, along with detailed diagrams and explanations of the correct way of protecting your goal. And they come packed in a handy plastic wallet.

All you have to do to stand a chance of winning one of the sets is to take a look at the two cartoons on this page.

They may look identical, but there are 10 deliberate differences. Just mark them with a ballpoint pen on cartoon B, fill in the coupon and send it to: Skillcards Competition, Match Weekly, 14 Holkham Road, Orton Southgate, Peterborough, PE2 0UF.

The first ten correct entries pulled out of our postbag will each receive a set of Soccer Skillcards.

Entries must reach us by April 9, and the results will be announced in our Saturday, April 24 issue.

RIDDLE TIME

THIS player began his career with Huddersfield before moving to Leicester where he earned eight England caps. He's currently helping a First Division club battle against relegation after spells with Bolton, Birmingham and in America.

The mystery man last week was former Manchester City and Norwich full-back Willie Donachie, who's just rejoined Portland Timbers.

MATCH THEM UP

PAIR up the following Fourth Division goalkeepers with their rightful clubs.

1 Ken Mulhearn
2 Pat Cuff
3 Vince O'Keefe
4 Neil Freeman
5 Mark Harrison

A Torquay
B Peterborough
C Port Vale
D Darlington
E Crewe



Name

Address.....

PLAYER JUMBLE

UNRAVEL the jumbled letters below to reveal the identity of a First Division striker.

FRIORANCTEVS

MISSING LINKS

HERE are the line-ups from last season's FA Cup Final replay at Wembley between Spurs and Manchester City. There are three players missing from each team. Can you name them?

SPURS: Hughton, Miller, Roberts, Perryman, Ardiles, Archibald, Crooks, Hoddle.
MANCHESTER CITY: Corrigan, 2 Paul Goddard (West Ham), 3 Alan Caton, Reid, Power, Mackenzie, Reeves, Hutchison.

SOLUTIONS

CUP QUIZ: 1 Coventry, 2 David Geddis, 3 Mark Wallington, Alan Young, Steve Lyness, 4 Man. Utd, 5 Blackpool, 6 Chelsea, 7 Steve Mackenzie, 8 Barnet, 9 Wrexham, 10 Jake King
MATCH THEM UP: 1-E; 2-D; 3-A; 4-B; 5-C
STOP THE ACTION: 1 Villa Park; 2 Paul Goddard (West Ham); 3 Alan Hansen; 4 (from left): Alan Hansen, Ian Rush (9), Billy Bonds, David Cross, Alan Kennedy, Jimmy Case, Phil Neal, Phil Thompson, 5 Jimmy Case (Bristol City)
PLAYER JUMBLE: Trevor Francis (Manchester City)
MISSING LINKS: Spurs — Alexie, Villa, Gavin, Man City — Ranson, Gow, Bennett
SOCCERWORD: Across: 1 Paul Goddard; 7 Bob; 9 John Deehan; 10 Evans; 12 Flood; 13 Spain; 14 Field; 17 Alan Ball; 19 Cliff; 22 Alan Nemes; 23 Les; 24 Estudiantes Down; 2 Atom; 3 Line; 4 O'Neill; 5 Docherty; 6 Rangers; 7 Breakaway; 8 Bees; 10 Bohemians; 15 defeats; 16 Fashanu; 18 Asensi; 19 call; 20 Alan; 21 Pete (hidden)



3 Who scored Liverpool's winner?

4 Name the eight players pictured

5 One of the players pictured has since moved clubs. Who is he and where does he now play?

WATCH ME PLAY!

Gary Bannister — hoping his goals for Sheffield Wednesday earn the club promotion and give him an England Under-21 chance.



GOAL-HAPPY GARY SEEKS INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION...

SHEFFIELD Wednesday striker Gary Bannister has sent out a plea to England's Under-21 bosses: "Come and watch me play".

Gary's goal glut is one of the main reasons why Wednesday are back in the Second Division promotion hunt and the youngster believes he has earned an international chance.

"I'm disappointed that I haven't had any recognition. I know I'm playing well enough," said Gary, who scored his 14th League goal in 19 games in Wednesday's 2-0 win over FA Cup Semi-Finalists Leicester.

"There are players in the current squad who haven't done as much as me this season. I don't think anyone has been to watch me."

Gary was bought for £100,000 as a left winger from Coventry during the close season, but his nose for goals soon persuaded manager Jack Charlton to give him a more central role.

"I've always had the ability to score goals so I was delighted when I got the chance to play as a striker."

Gary has reached second place in the division's leading scorers list the hard way — not one of his goals has come from a simple tap-in.

"I haven't scored an easy goal. Most of them have come when I've been running with the ball," explained the 21-year-old.

Gary gives much of the credit for his goalscoring success to midfielder Gary Megson, who joined Wednesday from Everton at the same time as Gary himself.

"Gary has delivered some great balls from midfield and I've scored a few goals from his passes. I've also benefitted from the height of six-foot strikers Andy McCulloch and John Pearson.

"They've alternated in the first team, but they've got similar styles. Both of them can win balls in the air and I feed off their knock-downs."

Gary is hoping that his goals can help lift Wednesday back into Division One for the first time since 1975.

"If we can improve on our home form, I see no reason why we shouldn't go up. It's our

performances away from Hillsborough that have kept us in the chase so far.

"It's been incredible at home. We've been creating chances but they just haven't been going in. It's as if there was a glass panel in front of the opponents' goalmouth.

"Luton and Watford will have to slip dramatically to miss promotion so we've got to fight for that important third place.

"But if Wednesday do go up, I believe you'll see some of the biggest crowds in the country at Hillsborough next season.

"It would be tremendous to celebrate my first full season in League football with promotion," added Gary, who was restricted to just 22 Division One appearances in five years at Coventry.

"I didn't get a chance to play more than three first team games on the trot at Highfield Road so I decided it was in my best interests to leave the club.

"I had five happy years there, but I'd reached the stage where my career was standing still. The transfer to Wednesday has proved

to be just right for me."

"I had a chat with assistant manager Gordon Milne during Coventry's close season tour of Asia and we both agreed it was better if I went. My career had reached a temporary halt."

Even while he was considering his future at Highfield Road, Gary was still among the goals and scored eight in as many games during the close season tour.

"I didn't get many chances in the first team because coach Ron Wylie preferred wingers who could get to the line and cross the balls for Coventry's tall strikers.

"Players like Mark Hateley and Garry Thompson thrive on that sort of service so it was obvious to play to their strengths."

Gary gave Wednesday the best possible reason for buying him. He scored twice for Coventry Reserves in their 7-2 win over the Yorkshire club last season.

"It was quite a shock when I heard Wednesday wanted to buy me, but I'd virtually made up my mind to sign before I even met Jack Charlton."

Treble chance long shots!

Ipswich star Paul Mariner looks ahead to English clubs' chance of success in Europe . . . and reveals the latest on his own road to recovery from injury.



CAN Tottenham achieve this season what Ipswich failed to do last season . . . the first-ever treble of League Championship, FA Cup and a European trophy?

I can warn them now that they are facing a tall order, even though they have the potential and confidence to achieve the unique feat.

I look at it this way. If Liverpool have been unable to achieve it in all the years they have been at the top, then it must be a long shot.

It's not a question of ability or living with the increasing pressures.

It's more a case of coping with the strain incurred by the mounting fixture pile-up and the possibility of injuries to key players.

Tottenham have proved this season that they have strength in depth, but all you need is one or two injuries and the cracks begin to appear.

It's a sad fact in football that the more successful the club, the harder the punishment.

But most clubs in the country would gladly swap places with them at the moment.

Crying shame

It would certainly be a crying shame if they didn't end up with at least one trophy as a reward for the thrilling football they have served up this season, both at home and away.

There's no doubt that if the treble is to be achieved, then Tottenham are the one side capable of doing it.

I'm certainly backing them to reach the final of the European Cup Winners' Cup, although they cannot afford to be complacent against Barcelona even if they can carve out a comfortable lead from the first leg at White Hart Lane.

We lost twice in successive years to the

Spanish giants despite travelling to the second leg with a lead.

In the 1978 UEFA Cup, we had the cushion of a 3-0 first leg advantage, yet still lost on penalties after losing 3-0 in Spain.

But that night, they had a certain player called Johann Cruyff, who scored twice and generally controlled matters.

They beat us on away goals the following year in the Cup Winners' Cup, but I don't think they are as forceful a side now that Cruyff has gone.

Partisan

Their partisan fans can unsettle teams, although Tottenham have plenty of big-game players to overcome the problems, providing they can leave London with a first-leg lead.

It's the same situation for Aston Villa in the European Cup. They need to do the job at home in the first leg against Anderlecht.

They are left to carry the British flag in the top European competition and that fact can lift a side when the chips are down.

Villa may not have produced the consistent form which won them the Championship last season, but they are still a forceful side when at full strength.

The absence of centre-half Ken McNought for the first half of the season affected the balance of their defence, and the internal wranglings, culminating in the departure of manager Ron Saunders obviously didn't help.

But if new Scottish cap Allan Evans can produce the brilliant form he showed against Ipswich recently, then they have every chance of reaching the European Cup Final.

The way he played in Villa's 3-1 defeat at Portman Road indicated that he could be in line for a place in Scotland's World Cup squad.

With him and Alan Hansen at the back,

Scotland would have a fairly formidable defence.

So I'm backing Tottenham and Villa to be in two of the European finals come the end of the season.

It was all happening for me at this time last season, but now I'm slogging my way back to fitness following my Achilles tendon operation.

And the signs are encouraging. I'm a week ahead of schedule and I hope to be back in action within the next two to three weeks.

Comeback

By the time you read this column, I hope I'm back at the club involved in some light training and planning my comeback.

I think my main problem will be getting my co-ordination and sharpness back after such a lengthy lay-off.

But I've just got to be confident that the ankle will stand up when the crunch comes sometime next month.

● Paul Mariner was talking to Melvyn Beck.

AUSTRIA

A troubled build-up

THE enigmatic Austrians were the surprise packet in Argentina four years ago when they made up for their twenty-year stint in the World Cup wilderness by reaching the Second Round.

They caused quite a stir by topping their group with victories over Spain and Sweden and only went down to Brazil by the only goal of the match.

Although they finished bottom of their section in their second phase, at least they had the distinction of defeating powerful neighbours West Germany 3-2.

The Germans have more than atoned for that embarrassment in this year's qualifying games with a 'double' over the Austrians, and the two countries meet again in Spain.

That will be the Austrians' final fixture and by that time, they will have hoped to have earned a passage into the Second Round by defeating Algeria and Chile.

They obviously possess the

Left: Austria dangerman Hans Krankl, who has experience of playing in Spain.

potential to do just that, but a lot will depend on the attitude and form of star striker Hans Krankl, who has recently returned to his native land after a spell in Spain with Barcelona.

There have already been reports that he is none too keen about playing in the Finals and, if there is any substance to those claims, then he may not be in the best mental shape for the competition.

If that's the case, then the Austrians will be looking to the form of players like Herbert Prohaska and Reinhold Hintermaier, who are preparing in more competitive fields in Italy and West Germany.

Dazzling

Added to the doubts as to whether Krankl can produce the dazzling form he showed in Argentina, are the internal wranglings that have affected Austria's build-up.

Manager Karl Stotz was surprisingly sacked in December just a month after Austria had made certain of qualifying with a goalless draw in Bulgaria.

He has been replaced by George Schmidt and only time will tell whether he can achieve the same results and response from the players as his predecessor.

If Austria peak at the right time, then they are Second Round candidates, but it's doubtful whether they have the experience and class to put a thorn in the side of the major contenders in the latter stages.

WORLD CUP FIXTURES

GROUP TWO:

June 17 — Chile (Oviedo).
June 21 — Algeria (Oviedo).
June 25 — West Germany (Gijón).

PREVIOUS WORLD CUP FINALS

1934 (Fourth), 1954 (Third), 1958, 1978 (Second Round).

COLOURS

Shirts: White; Shorts: Black; Socks: Black.

HOW THEY GOT THERE

GROUP ONE:

Finland 0, Austria 2 (Jara, Welzl) — Helsinki, Sept. 24, 1980.

Austria 5 (Pezzey, Schachner 2, Welzl, Krankl), Albania 0 — Vienna, Nov. 15, 1980.

Albania 0, Austria 1 (Welzl) — Tirana, Dec. 6, 1980.

West Germany 2, Austria 0 — Hamburg, Apr. 29, 1981.

Austria 2 (Krankl, Jara), Bulgaria 0 — Vienna, May 28, 1981.

Austria 5 (Prohaska 2, Krankl, Welzl, Jurtin), Finland 1 — Linz, June 17, 1981.

Austria 1 (Schachner), West Germany 3 — Vienna, Oct. 14, 1981.

Bulgaria 0, Austria 0 — Sofia, Nov. 11, 1981.

Leading scorers: Welzl 4, Krankl, Schachner 3.

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
W. Germany	8	8	0	0	33	3	16
AUSTRIA	8	5	1	2	16	6	11
Bulgaria	8	4	1	3	11	10	9
Albania	8	1	0	7	4	22	2
Finland	8	1	0	7	4	27	2

MATCH VERDICT ★ ★

THE sight of their qualifying group conquerors West Germany in the same First Round section in Spain may well have a psychological effect on the Austrians.

They were beaten twice by the powerful Germans along the road to Spain, but the Austrians did enough in the other games to hold off a challenge from Bulgaria.

It seems as though they will have to settle for second spot again this time, with their match against Chile being a key fixture.

Austria were the surprise team in Argentina when they reached the Second Round and effectively ended West Germany's hopes of a semi-final place, and that's as far as they can logically expect to go this time.

● SECOND ROUND

Probable squad

PLAYER	AGE	TEAM	POSITION
Friedrich KONCILIA	33	FK Austria	Goalkeeper
Herbert FEURER	27	FC Rapid	Goalkeeper
Johann DIHANICH	23	FC Rapid	Defender
Bruno PEZZEY	26	Eint Frankfurt	Defender
Erich OBERMAYER	28	FK Austria	Defender
Dieter MIRNEGG	27	Como	Defender
Heribert WEBER	26	FC Rapid	Defender
Bernd KRAUSS	24	FC Rapid	Defender
Werner ZANON	26	FC W Innsbruck	Defender
Herbert PROHASKA	26	Inter Milan	Midfield
Kurt JARA	31	Grasshoppers	Midfield
Roland HATTENBERGER	33	FC W Innsbruck	Midfield
Reinhold HINTERMAIER	25	FC Nuremburg	Midfield
Felix GASSELICH	26	FK Austria	Midfield
Ernst BAUMEISTER	25	FK Austria	Midfield
Willy KREUZ	32	VOEST Linz	Midfield
Kurt WELZL	27	Valencia	Striker
Hans KRANKL	28	FC Rapid	Striker
Walter SCHACHNER	24	Cesena	Striker
Max HAGMAYR	25	VOEST Linz	Striker
Christian KEGLEVITS	21	FC Rapid	Striker
Gernot JURTIN	26	Sturm Graz	Striker



BELOW: Austria's line-up (left to right) — Erich Obermayer, Herbert Feurer, Bruno Pezzey, Herbert Prohaska, Hans Krankl, Johann Dihanich, Dieter Mirnegg, Roland Hattenberger, Kurt Jara, Walter Schachner, Kurt Welzl.

BELGIUM



Austria and Belgium are the two teams featured in the second part of our exciting new World Cup series... an A-Z dossier on the Finalists who will oppose each other in Spain this summer.

Each week, up to the start of the finals, reporter Melvyn Beck will be bringing you a detailed look at the teams competing for the biggest prize in football... highlighting their qualifying record, star players and likely squads.

And watch out for the special 'Match' verdict on each team — with a star rating out of five indicating each country's chances of success.

They can beat anyone

BELGIUM have emerged from a dormant period in the international arena to become a force capable on their day of unseating the leading soccer nations.

It's their first World Cup Finals appearance since Mexico in 1970, but since the shrewd Guy Thys took over the reins in 1977, they have made significant progress.

The improvement in fortunes culminated in their achieving runners-up spot to West Germany in the 1980 European Championships, and the momentum has been maintained through the World Cup qualifying matches.

With most of the European Championship squad still in favour, Thys has managed to maintain a well-drilled and settled formation that led to them winning a tough section that included Holland, France, and Eire.

There is no question that World Cup holders Argentina could have chosen a far less exacting start to their defence of the coveted title than Belgium will provide in the Barcelona curtain-raiser on June 13.

The Belgians' solid and aggressive European attitude could easily unsettle the South Americans in a match where the pressure of the occasion might

affect the quality of the performance.

If Belgium manage to qualify for the second round, then they will at least achieve a piece of history.

In five World Cup Finals, they have yet to venture past the first hurdle.

Thys will be looking to the experience of players like Wilfried Van Moer, Eric Gerets and Luc Millecamps to maintain stability at the back.

Striker Jan Ceulemans, one of the stars in Italy two years ago, is still collecting the goals along with young Erwin Vandenberg.

HOW THEY GOT THERE

EUROPEAN GROUP TWO

Eire 1, Belgium 1 (Cluytens) — Dublin, Oct. 15, 1980.

Belgium 1, Holland 0 (Vandenberg) — Brussels, Nov. 19, 1980.

Cyprus 0, Belgium 2 (Vandenberg, Ceulemans) — Nicosia, Dec. 21, 1980.

Belgium 3 (Ceulemans, Plessers, Vandenberg), Cyprus 2 — Brussels, Feb. 18, 1981.

Belgium 1 (Ceulemans), Eire 0 — Brussels, March 25, 1981.

France 3, Belgium 2 (Vandenberg, Ceulemans) — Paris, Apr. 29, 1981.

Belgium 2, France 0 (Vandenberg, Czerniatynski) — Brussels, Sept. 9, 1981.

Holland 3, Belgium 0 — Rotterdam, Oct. 14, 1981.

Leading scorers: Vandenberg 5, Ceulemans 4.

Final table:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
BELGIUM	8	5	1	2	12	9	11
France	8	5	0	3	20	8	10
Eire	8	4	2	2	17	11	10
Holland	8	4	1	3	11	7	9
Cyprus	8	0	0	8	4	29	0



Ace Belgian marksman Jan Ceulemans will be a threat in Spain.

WORLD CUP FIXTURES

GROUP THREE:

June 13 — Argentina

(Barcelona).

June 19 — El Salvador (Elche).

June 22 — Hungary (Elche).

PREVIOUS WORLD CUP FINALS

1930, 1934, 1938, 1954, 1970.

(Never been beyond the first round).

COLOURS

Shirts: Red; Shorts: Red; Socks: Red.

MATCH VERDICT ★ ★ ★

IMPROVING Belgium have the experience and quality to cause some upsets in the World Cup Finals.

Since finishing second to West Germany in the 1980 European Championships, they have maintained their position as one of the top international sides in Europe.

They look capable of joining Argentina in the second round, but may not have the calibre to succeed when the competition reaches its climax.

● SECOND ROUND

Probable squad

PLAYER	AGE	TEAM	POSITION
Jean Marie PFAFF	28	Beveren	Goalkeeper
Michael PREUD'HOMME	23	Standard Liege	Goalkeeper
Jacques MUNARON	25	Anderlecht	Goalkeeper
Eric GERETS	27	Standard Liege	Defender
Luc MILLECAMP	30	Waregem	Defender
Walter MEEUWS	30	Standard Liege	Defender
Michel DE WOLF	24	RWDM	Defender
Michel RENQUIN	26	Anderlecht	Defender
Mark BAECKE	25	Beveren	Defender
Gerard PLESSERS	22	Standard Liege	Defender
Rene VANDEREYCKEN	28	Genoa	Midfield
Francois VAN DER ELST	27	West Ham	Midfield
Frankie VERCAUTEREN	25	Anderlecht	Midfield
Ludo COECK	26	Anderlecht	Midfield
Juan LOZANO	26	Anderlecht	Midfield
Wilfried VAN MOER	37	Beveren	Midfield
Marc MILLECAMP	31	Waregem	Midfield
Raymond MOMMENS	23	Lokeren	Midfield
Erwin VANDENBERGH	23	Lierse	Striker
Jan CEULEMANS	25	Bruges	Striker
Alex CZERNIATYNSKI	21	Antwerp	Striker
Albert CLUYTENS	26	Anderlecht	Striker
Willy GEURTS	28	Anderlecht	Striker
Willy WELLENS	28	FC Bruges	Striker

RIGHT: Belgium's World Cup hopefuls. Back row (left to right) — Jean Marie Pfaff, Albert Cluytens, Jan Ceulemans, Erwin Vandenberg, Ludo Coeck, Rene Vandereycken. Front row — Michel Renquin, Willy Wellens, Raymond Mommens, Eric Gerets, Gerard Plessers.

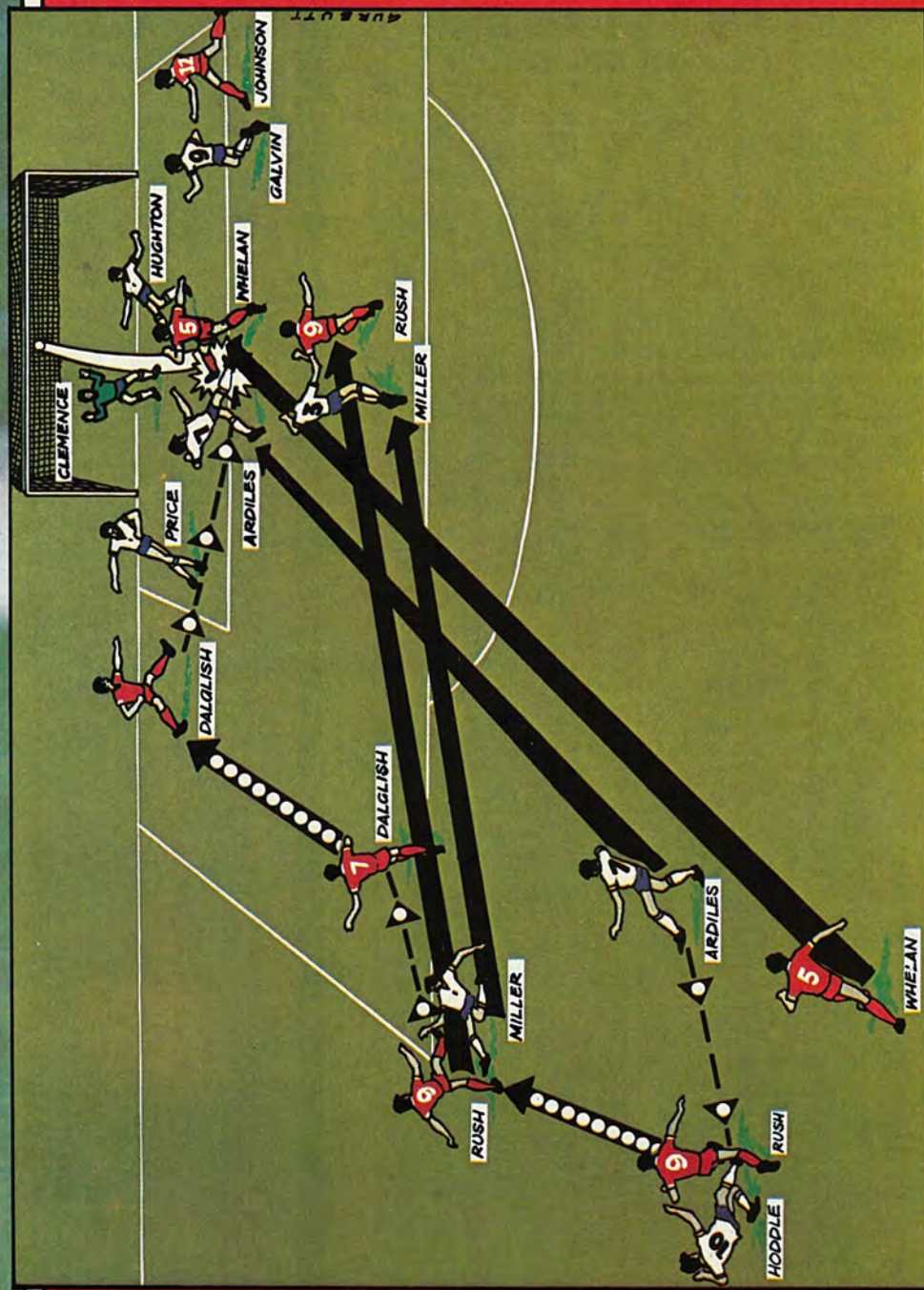


WHACK!
It's WHIELAM



GOLDEN GOAL

Despite the attentions of Spurs' Ossie Ardiles, Ronnie Whelan blasts home his second goal to give Liverpool a 2-1 lead in extra time of the League Cup Final at Wembley. Spurs' Chris Hughton (on the line) is powerless to stop the shot.



Ronnie Whelan (Liverpool) v Tottenham, League Cup Final, Wembley, Sat., March 13, 1982.

IRISH Imp Ronnie Whelan had the ideal stage to rubber stamp his remarkable arrival on the English soccer scene.

The Eire international midfielder starlet selected a packed Wembley Stadium to become a permanent fixture in Merseyside folklore by emerging as Liverpool's League Cup hero in the 3-1 extra-time defeat of Tottenham.

He first became the saviour of Liverpool's dreams with an equaliser two minutes from the normal time and then, just nine minutes from the end of extra time, he struck for a second time to virtually guarantee the Cup's return to the glittering Anfield showcase. It was a day which started with no sleep and a bagful of nerves... and ended with the realisation of a dream.

Although Ronnie's equaliser rescued Liverpool, it was his second goal, and virtual match-clincher, which he remembered most after the incident-packed final.

He says: "It was nice to think that perhaps I had scored the Cup winner for Liverpool with that second goal."

As it turned out, fellow youngster Ian Rush added a third for good measure in the last minute, but by then Ronnie had done the damage.

Talking about his second goal, he says: "I remember Kenny Dalglish breaking through on the left with the Tottenham defence caught square."

"He held the ball up for so long that it was almost like a five-a-side movement."

"He waited until someone arrived in the penalty area, and fortunately it was me. I couldn't really miss."

"It's difficult to describe my feelings when it went in. I was simply overjoyed."

Stratton on Saturday

£5 IS THE PRIZE!

I'M Paul Stratton and if my challenger (opposite) can prove he's a better tipster than me he wins £5!

In the panel below I've given my predictions for ten matches and you can see my opponent's forecasts alongside them.

There's a space for your forecasts and a column for the actual results, so just for fun, you can try and beat me too.

Award two points for every correct score and one point if you get the result right (i.e. home win, away win, draw) but the scoreline wrong.



Pictured above is my guest opponent this week — 'Match' reader John Keeley of Winsford, Cheshire. Fifteen-year-old John is a 'football fanatic' and supports Liverpool. His favourite player is striker Kenny Dalglish.

Suffering Saints!

THREE of the major contenders for the League title could all come unstuck on Saturday.

Southampton, Manchester United and Arsenal may well, I fancy, be returning home pointless following what may turn out to be tricky away matches against 'lesser' opposition.

And that would leave the door open for my title tips — Ipswich — to steal a three-point march on three of their biggest rivals . . . providing they get their expected home victory over Coventry.

'Saints' travel along the South Coast to face Brighton bidding to improve on what is the worst away record of any of the top ten clubs.

But they are sure to meet with stern resistance from a Brighton side themselves chasing a place in Europe.

I fancy, at the end of the day, Southampton would be happy

with a point . . . but they may not even get that if England hopeful Steve Foster can shackle his international captain Kevin Keegan.

It will be a feather in Foster's cap — or should I say headband — if he can prevent the First Division's deadliest marksman from scoring.

Meanwhile Manchester United, whose recent defeat at Coventry brought a threat of wholesale changes from manager Ron Atkinson, travel to Leeds.

But for a dismal away record, Leeds would not have the relegation worries that now face them, but they have proved to be a tough nut to crack at Elland Road.

The acquisition of striker Frank Worthington may be just the injection they need to put together a winning sequence.

His inventiveness up front proved its worth in only his second game for his new club

when his goal earned Leeds what was only their second away victory of the season at Sunderland.

He'd love a repeat performance against his boyhood idols United on Saturday . . . and could be in luck.

Lastly, Arsenal might not get the expected victory over worried Wolves at Molineux.

I'm tipping the 'Wanderers' to provide a hiccup in Arsenal's steady but uninspiring drive towards the top of the League.

I've predicted possible scorelines for ten of Saturday's matches and the challenge is — beat me if you can!

As usual there is £5 at stake in my special challenge against one lucky 'Match Weekly' reader (see panel above).

● Congratulations to Terry Gosbee of Mitcham, Surrey, and Ian Wilkins, of Liverpool, who both managed to beat me and so win £5 each.

Fixtures

Friday, April 2
DIVISION ONE

Liverpool v Notts Co.
DIVISION TWO
Barnsley v Rotherham

DIVISION THREE
Plymouth v Newport

DIVISION FOUR
Halifax v Stockport
Scunthorpe v Colchester
Wigan v York

Saturday, April 3

FA CUP SEMI-FINALS
Leicester v Spurs
(At Villa Park)
QPR v West Brom
(At Highbury)

DIVISION ONE
Brighton v So'ton
Ipswich v Coventry
Leeds v Man. Utd.
Man. City v West Ham
Nott'm F v Everton
Sunderland v Middlesbrough
Wolves v Arsenal

DIVISION TWO
Bolton v Shrewsbury
Cambridge v Norwich
Cardiff v Watford
Charlton v Newcastle
Chelsea v Oldham
Crystal Pal. v Grimsby
Luton v Blackburn
Wrexham v Derby

DIVISION THREE
Brentford v Oxford
Bristol R v Millwall
Burnley v Reading
Carlisle v Portsmouth
Chesterfield v Lincoln
Doncaster v Gillingham
Exeter v Chester
Preston v Wembleton
Southend v Bristol C.
Swindon v Huddersfield
Walsall v Fulham

DIVISION FOUR
Bournemouth v Blackpool
Aldershot v Port Vale
Bradford v Tranmere
Hull v Hereford
Northampton v Hartlepool
Peterborough v Bury
Rochdale v Mansfield
Sheff. Utd v Torquay

SCOTTISH
SCOTTISH FA CUP SEMI-FINALS
Rangers v Forfar
(At Hampden)
Aberdeen v St Mirren
(At Parkhead)

PREMIER DIVISION
Airdrie v Hibernian
Dundee v Dundee U.
Morton v Celtic

FIRST DIVISION
Dumbarton v Raith
Dunfermline v Ayr
E Stirling v Motherwell
Hamilton v Queens Pk.
Hearts v St Johnstone
Kilmarnock v Clyde
Queen of S v Falkirk

SECOND DIVISION
Berwick v Arbroath
Clyde v Brechin
East Fife v Alloa
Meadowbank v Stranraer
Montrose v Stirling
Stenhousemuir v Cowdenbath

Sunday, April 4
DIVISION FOUR
Darlington v Crewe

Saturday, April 3

MY FORECAST GUESTS FORECAST YOUR FORECAST RESULT

Brighton v Southampton
Leeds v Man. United
Wolves v Arsenal
Luton v Blackburn
Wrexham v Derby
Carlisle v Portsmouth
Chesterfield v Lincoln
Hull v Hereford
Sheff. United v Torquay
Dundee V Dundee Utd

2-1 1-1
1-0 0-2
2-0 0-1
2-0 2-0
0-1 1-1
3-1 3-1
1-0 2-1
2-0 2-0
2-1 3-0
1-1 1-2

WHO WON THIS WEEK?

POINTS SCORED

PAUL
YOURSELF

AGGREGATE SCORES CARRIED FORWARD TO NEXT WEEK

PAUL
YOURSELF

High Noon

AT HIGHFIELD ROAD

Melvyn Beck meets the young goalkeeper who is gunning to be number one . . .

IN the best traditions of a John Wayne Western, Coventry goalkeeper Les Sealey declares: "This club isn't big enough for two experienced 'keepers'."

The 24-year-old is not planning a 'High Noon' shoot-out with his Scottish international rival Jim Blyth to decide who is top dog.

But, after seven months in Blyth's shadow, Les has been offered the chance by manager Dave Sexton to 'run him out of town'.

He's got a major role in Coventry's relegation battle, and he's risen to the challenge with only one goal conceded in his first four games, three of them against title challengers Swansea, Manchester United and Arsenal.

But his recall to senior duty after being first choice last season has left Les with something of a dilemma.

He went on the transfer list last November just a few months after signing a new two-year contract, and then sold his home.

Now he has moved into rented property, and, although back in the first team, he wonders what the future holds.

"I am at a stage now where I should be established in the First Division if I'm going to make it," he says.

"I've played over 130 First Division matches which is a lot for a player who has been in and out of the side.

"I'm still on the list, but it may be that Coventry will want me to honour my contract.

"I would be quite happy to stay with the Coventry first team for the rest of my career, but that may not be possible with Jim around.

"It may be great for the club to have two experienced goalkeepers, but it's not the ideal situation for us.

"I may keep my place for the rest of the season but, come next season, the same problems will probably arise.

"It's a situation that won't be resolved until one of us has left the club.

"When Dave Sexton was appointed in the summer, I knew my position was in jeopardy.

"He had wanted to sign Jim when manager of Manchester United, so I suppose I knew that he would be in the team from the start.

Les Sealey — "I'd be quite happy to stay at Coventry for the rest of my career if I'm in the first team."

"I've had to wait a long time for my chance, and it's up to me to show the manager what I can do. "I started well enough with only one goal conceded in four matches, but I had a little bit of luck on my side, and I may not get that all the time.

"I think we caught Swansea and Manchester United on bad days, and against Arsenal we just managed to pinch the vital goal.

"We had these relegation fears last season after being knocked out of the League Cup Semi-Finals, but managed to survive.

"We seem to blow up for two months in the season and then manage to recover. I hope we are on the way back now.

"It would be nice if I can play my part in helping to keep the club in the First Division.

"But what happens then, I just don't know."

I'M a nine-year-old girl and I support West Ham. I would like a girl pen friend aged 9 to 11 who also supports The Hammers.

Joanne North, 5 Essex Road, Dagenham, Essex RM10 8ER.

WE are three 16-year-old London girls who would like to write to three boys from anywhere. We love going to matches, enjoy most sports and music, and between us support Spurs, Fulham, Chelsea, Nottingham Forest and Man Utd.

Suzanne Tricia and Jackie, 125 Hillary Road, Southall, Middlesex UB2 4PU.

I AM a 12-year-old Oldham Athletic supporter and I would like a pen pal of my own age who lives in London. Garry Murphy, 196 Denton Lane, Chadderton, Oldham, Lancs.

I WOULD like a pen pal aged 13 to 16 who supports Queen's Park Rangers, Chelsea or any First Division club. Graham Rose (14), 69 Parkside, Spennymoor, Co. Durham.

I'M a 13-year-old Wolves supporter. I would like a pen pal who also supports Wolves and lives in the Wolverhampton area.

Matthew Lewis, 26 Brynhyfryd St, Penydarren, Merthyr Tydfil, Mid-Glamorgan CF47 9YN.

I AM a 9-year-old Manchester United fan and I would like a boy pen pal of similar age to write to me from anywhere in the world. Vincent Lester, 53 Milldale Road, Leigh, Lancs.

MY name is Tracey Carder. I'm a 17-year-old Liverpool supporter and I'd like a pen pal aged 15 to 18.

Tracey Carder, 1 Avon Walk, Featherstone, West Yorkshire WF7 6JR.

I'M A 13-year-old Ipswich supporter who would like a male or female pen friend aged 13 or over, who also supports Ipswich.

Lynne Murkin, 24 Dash End, Kedington, near Haverhill, Suffolk CB9 7QR.

I'M a 17-year-old West Ham fan and I'd like a female pen pal of the same age who supports The Hammers, preferably, or Manchester United. Ian Jones, 21 Kimberley Avenue, Nunhead, London SE15 3XB.

Pen pals



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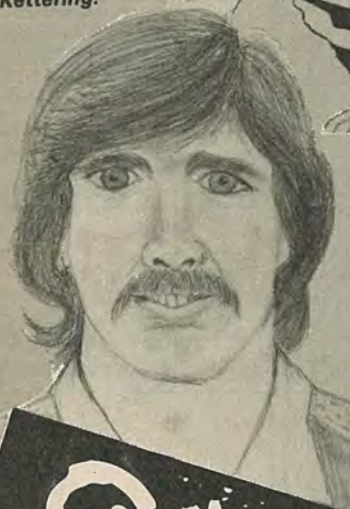


TOTTENHAM
defender Steve Perryman is the favourite of John Westbrook of London NW1. He says: "Steve is one of the most stylish full backs in the League."

CELTIC and Scotland Under-23 star Charlie Nicholas is recovering from a broken leg, but when he's fit he's capable of scoring brilliant goals, according to Sean Timoney (12), of Kettering.



MANCHESTER
City skipper Paul Power is the subject of Colin Barden's drawing. The Houghton Regis, Beds., reader says of his hero: "He's been a good servant to City"



OUTRAGED at something concerning soccer? Then write and tell us about it. But remember, you risk the wrath of the 'Match' referee who may book you or, worse still, send you off!

Just to soften the blow, the person who gets his marching orders wins £5 and those whose names are taken get £2.

Write to: 'Outraged', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

OUTRAGED!

SWOP FLOP!

I'M outraged that Leeds have swopped Byron Stevenson for Birmingham's ageing striker Frank Worthington.

Byron never had a bad match at Elland Road. He's a Welsh international and has a tremendous shoot-on-sight attitude.

Worthington has had his day. He's 33, at an age when most players are finished. Leeds got the worst of the deal.

Chris Ambler, Keighley, West Yorkshire.

● WHO scored the winner for Leeds in only their second away victory of the season at Sunderland recently? That's right, Frank Worthington.

You're sent off for thinking age is a handicap to a class player.

Sent off!
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What a scream

I'M outraged with some of our TV commentators. The worst offenders for high-pitched howling are the BBC's John Motson and David Coleman.

"It's a scream!" bawls Motson as a player blasts the ball from the edge of the penalty area — and my cat hits the roof.

Can't these people commentate with a less excitable voice?

Clare Grogan, Ryhope, near Sunderland.

● ONLY if they're watching Arsenal. You're booked. By the way, are you THE Clare Grogan?

OUTRAGED!

FEEBLE, HODDLE

I AM outraged at the amount of publicity Glenn Hoddle receives.

He is one of the most overrated footballers in Britain. He doesn't work as hard as the rest of his Spurs team-mates and his tackles are feeble.

So let's have less praise for Glenn, and consider the skills of other, better players.

Paul Batty, Kiveton Park, Sheffield.

● GLENN'S resolute performance against Chelsea in the FA Cup Quarter-Finals should finally silence the critics who doubt his commitment. Hoddle gives 100 per cent — and you're in the book!



Black mark, Lawrenson

LIVERPOOL defender Mark Lawrenson (above) ought to be more careful when he makes remarks to Sunday newspapers.

The former Brighton star said that 90 per cent of Liverpool's reserve side would get into the Brighton first team.

So how come Brighton beat Liverpool 1-0 at the Goldstone Ground recently? Maybe Liverpool should have fielded their reserves.

Mark's outburst annoyed many of the Brighton fans who still admire his style of play.

P. Summers, Peacehaven, Sussex.

Hull wounds self-inflicted

NO wonder football clubs face financial ruin. Hull City were paying their manager £30,000 a year.

How can a Fourth Division club justify paying one man that sort of wage? It's a certain step to bankruptcy.

Soccer has brought a lot of trouble on itself.

D. Hargreaves, Hebburn, Tyne and Wear.



Melrose mystery

LEICESTER City manager Jock Wallace has done a great job for the club ... even though his accent baffles a few Sassenachs!

But I don't share his confidence of winning back a First Division place this season. Leicester's tremendous FA Cup run has caused a big back-log of fixtures and they have a lot of ground to make up in Division Two.

And I can't understand why his top scorer and two-goal Cup Quarter-Final hero, Jim Melrose (above), is substituted for almost every match.

Jim Cook, Brandon, Suffolk.

STAR GALLERY

TERRACE TALK

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KEEGAN'S THE KING

IT was great to see Kevin Keegan chosen as the Professional Footballers' Player of the Year.

Keegan has been in inspired form this season. His goal-scoring exploits have turned Southampton into Championship contenders and Kevin's effort went a long way in helping England secure a World Cup Finals place.

I'm glad he was honoured in this way.

My vote for Scottish player of the year would go to Paul Sturrock, who has been in great form for Dundee United.

Ian Whitaker, Bognor Regis, Sussex.

● DON'T forget you can cast your vote for Match Weekly's Man of the Year. You'll find a voting form on Page 38.

Cut the costs

PEOPLE who believe that falling attendances are due to boring soccer are wrong. The game is just as exciting as ever.

The problem is the high cost of admission. With over three million out of work and many people struggling to pay bills, many fans

can't afford to attend regularly.

If the players' wages were cut and admission charges reduced, more fans would get back into the habit of regularly supporting their team.

A. Mason, Hoddesdon, Herts.

GOLDEN GOOF

STRANGE that England and Ipswich striker Paul Mariner should be delighted by a goal scored by Scotland and Tottenham's Steve Archibald.

The fact is that this caption writer has made a Golden Goof. The man in the net is Steve Archibald's Tottenham team-mate Paul Miller ... not Mariner.

Nicholas Barnes of London spotted the goof.



NETTED—Paul Mariner is delighted as Steve Archibald scores Spurs' first

BARGAINS IN THE BASEMENT

MORE clubs should strengthen their playing staffs by raiding the non-League circuit.

Just think of the fine players who have been scooped from non-League football — like Cyrille Regis (right) of West Brom and Tottenham's Graham Roberts — for small fees.

I'm a Newcastle supporter and, like most teams, they can't afford to buy big-name players.

So manager Arthur Cox hunts around in non-League soccer for players who he thinks will make the grade. So far, he has signed Chris Waddle, Alan Shoulder, Peter Cartwright, Kevin Todd and Steve Carney.

If other managers followed his example, the days of the ridiculous transfer fee will come to an end.

Graham Ferguson, Bedlington, Northumberland.



Flying the colours ...

I HAVE made up a team of colourful players. If they played in the First Division, they would just shade it! The team is:

Steve CHERRY (Derby), Trevor CHERRY (Leeds), Bill GREEN (Chesterfield), Chris WHYTE (Arsenal), Frank GRAY (Leeds), Eddie GRAY (Leeds), Alan BROWN (Sunderland), Andy GRAY (Wolves), Nigel GRAY (Orient), Alan BROWN (Sunderland), Stuart GRAY (Nottingham Forest).

David Thomas (12), Reading, Berks.

SIZZLING SOCCER

MORE thought should be given to summer soccer. Cold, rainy weather deters the fans. Warm weather football is the only alternative. Paul Hutchinson, Brocklesby, South Humberside.

CHART BUSTERS

MY football 'top ten' is:

- 1 Embarrassment — Arsenal's goalscoring record.
- 2 All Stood Still — Northern Ireland at Wembley.
- 3 Too Much, Too Young — Glenn Hoddle.
- 4 Master Blaster — Jimmy Case.
- 5 Together We Are Beautiful — John and Kevin Bond.
- 6 Under Pressure — Crewe Alexandra.
- 7 We Don't Talk Anymore — Ron Saunders and Aston Villa.
- 8 Making your Mind Up — Ron Greenwood.
- 9 Say Hello, Wave Goodbye — Tommy Docherty.
- 10 Flash — John Burridge.

Aron Caplan, Stanmore, Middlesex.

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SCOTTISH CUP *Semi-Finals*

LITTLE Forfar of the Second Division are poised to pull off one of the Scottish Cup's biggest ever shocks when they meet Rangers at Hampden Park in the Semi-Finals. Rangers' recalled 'keeper Peter McCloy talks of the dangers of facing the giantkillers while Aberdeen's Willie Miller previews his club's clash with St Mirren...

RANGERS' veteran goalkeeper Peter McCloy is poised for yet another Scottish Cup Final — just twelve months after missing out on what would have been his fifth Final in six years.

The 35-year-old Ibrox favourite was dropped just before last season's Semi-Finals in favour of new £100,000 signing Jim Stewart from Middlesbrough.

But this season the roles have been dramatically reversed with Peter recently recalled to senior duty after living in Jim's shadow for most of the term.

"I must admit that my return to the first team came right out of the blue," says Peter, who has five Cup winners' medals to his name in twelve successful years with Rangers.

"I hadn't contemplated playing in another Final. At 35, and with my contract expiring at the end of the season, I was more concerned about my future.

"I still believe I have plenty to offer the game and I'm sure I prove that to everybody in training.

"It would be great to play in another Final, particularly after missing out last year and in this season's League Cup Final win over Dundee United.

"I was back in the side at the

THE REAL McCLOY!

time of the League Cup Final but three days before the match, I was injured and so I missed my second Final in the space of a few months.

"Missing last season's FA Cup Final was obviously a big blow, particularly as I had been in goal for most of the season.

"But the manager bought in Jim Stewart to keep me on my toes and obviously thought at the time that he was the one in form."

But before Peter can dream of his fifth Final outing in seven years, Rangers have the little matter of toppling tiny Forfar, the shock semi-finalists from the Second Division.

"I know we are expected to win, but it doesn't always work out that way," says Peter.

"If we don't show the same application as we do when we play the likes of Celtic, then we could have problems.

"They only have to raise their game for ninety minutes and not for the whole season.

"But we defeated Forfar in the League Cup last season and I shouldn't think they have changed much since then."

It would be a remarkable achievement if Rangers could reach their seventh successive FA Cup Final.

"We seem to be able to raise our game for cup ties, but lack consistency in the Premier Division, which is frustrating for manager John Greig," adds Peter.

"But you have always got to have some luck with the draws. This season, for instance, we have had three home ties, two against teams from the lower divisions."

No such luck with the draw for Rangers' opponents Forfar however, who overcame four away ties to reach the Semi-Finals.

With two goals each, Clark, Brash and Hancock have been the club's top marksmen in the competition so far and the trio will be keen to add to their tallies on Saturday.

Forfar are by no means out of the race for promotion from the Second Division this season and they have beaten three First Division sides in Hamilton, Hearts and Queen's Park on the way to facing Rangers.

But to suggest they can beat the Glasgow giants — finalists for the past six seasons — would be story-book stuff.

Meanwhile Premier Division rivals Aberdeen and St Mirren

HOW THEY GOT THERE

RANGERS

Albion (home) 6-2 — Johnstone, MacDonald, Russell, McAdam, McPherson (pen), Redford.
Dumbarton (home) 4-0 — Jardine 2, Johnstone, McAdam.
Dundee (home) 2-0 — McAdam, Johnstone.

FORFAR

East Fife (away) 3-2 — Mitchell, Clark, Brash.
Hamilton (home) 3-2 (after 0-0 draw) — Clark, Brash, Gallagher.
Hearts (away) 1-0 — Hancock.
Queen's Park (away) 2-1 Hancock, Leitch.

ABERDEEN

Motherwell (away) 1-0 — Hewitt.
Celtic (home) 1-0 — Hewitt.
Kilmarnock (home) 4-2 — Strachan 2 (pens), McGhee, Simpson.

ST MIRREN

Morton (home) 2-1 — Bone, Abercrombie.
Clydebank (away) 2-0 — Scanlon, McAvennie.
Dundee Utd (home) 1-0 — Fitzpatrick.

are left to fight it out for the other Final place at Parkhead.

Aberdeen's passage to the Semi-Finals has been anything but easy. They have had to overcome both Premier Division leaders Celtic and First Division Championship favourites Motherwell on the way.

But says their Scottish international defender Willie Miller: "Our Semi-Final tie against St Mirren is going to be the hardest of all.

"They have been playing very well in the League this season and are a very skilful side.

"Like us, they are a team that likes to go forward so it should be a pretty exciting game.

"We were disappointed that the match was switched from St Johnstone's ground to Parkhead because the change of venue will cost us a few supporters.

"We were hoping to have the bulk of the support at St Johnstone, but the switch means our fans have further to travel."

Former Aberdeen star Ian Scanlon will be facing his old team-mates and Willie knows what a threat the St Mirren star poses.

"Ian's always been a very good player and we'll have to watch out for him.

"Their young midfielder Frank McAvennie has burst onto the scene this season with some tremendous performances and he impressed me when we played them at Love Street."

Rangers' keeper Peter McCloy — back in the first team and ready to face Forfar in the Scottish Cup Semi-Final.

Rangers' six Finals

1976 — Rangers 3, Hearts 1
1977 — Celtic 1, Rangers 0
1978 — Rangers 2, Aberdeen 1
1979 — Rangers 3, Hibernian 2 (after two 0-0 draws)
1980 — Celtic 1, Rangers 0
1981 — Rangers 4, Dundee Utd 1 (after 0-0 draw)

IT'S EUROPEAN SEMI-FINALS FLYING THE FI

CRESTFALLEN League Champions Aston Villa go into European Cup Semi-Final action next Wednesday determined to uphold England's magnificent record in the competition.

Liverpool and Nottingham Forest between them have kept the European Cup in this country for the past five seasons.

And Villa goalkeeper Jimmy Rimmer declares: "We'd love to make it a double hat-trick of wins for England. It would be a tremendous boost for football here."

"With Liverpool out of the tournament, the Villa players are only too well aware that we are flying the English flag and defending a proud record in the competition."

At the same time, of course, victory in the European Cup would go a long way towards making up for Villa's disappointing League

season in defence of the Championship and Jimmy admits: "Our run in the European Cup has kept us going through our bad times in the League."

"We haven't kept to the standard of last season and we know it."

"If we can go on and win the trophy, it will make up for the disappointment of a poor season in the First Division."

Of course, Villa must first overcome Belgian champions Anderlecht over the two-leg Semi-Final.

Anderlecht are currently battling it out with Standard Leige for the leadership of the Belgian First Division.

With eight games left to play, they stand two points behind the leaders.

And if they do overhaul Leige to retain the title, it will be their eighteenth Championship success.

League Champions Aston Villa and FA Cup holders Spurs are left to carry the British flag in Europe. Here we take a look at the task ahead of them and seek the views of Tottenham skipper Steve Perryman and Villa 'keeper Jimmy Rimmer.

So it's sure to be a tough test for Villa and Jimmy admits: "We fancied drawing CSKA, the Bulgarians who beat Liverpool, because we've already knocked out two Iron Curtain clubs."

"Players from that part of the world are similar in style and method and we are quite happy against them."

"But at least we've missed Bayern Munich — the team we

HOW THEY GOT THERE

ASTON VILLA (European Cup)

First Round

ASTON VILLA (3) 5 (Withe 2, Donovan 2, Morley)
VALUR (Iceland) (0) 0
Att: 20,481
VALUR (0) 0
ASTON VILLA (0) 2 (Shaw 2)
Att: 3,500
Villa win 7-0 on aggregate

Second Round

DYNAMO BERLIN (E. Germany) (0) 1 (Riedger)
ASTON VILLA (1) 2 (Morley 2)
Att: 30,000
ASTON VILLA (0) 0
DYNAMO (1) 1 (Terletzki)
Att: 28,175
Villa win on away goals

Quarter-Final

DYNAMO KIEV (Russia) (0) 0
ASTON VILLA (0) 0
Att: 40,000
ASTON VILLA (2) 2 (Shaw, McNaught)
KIEV (0) 0
Att: 38,579
Villa win 2-0 on aggregate

TOTTENHAM (Cup Winners' Cup)

First Round

AJAX (0) 1 (Lerby)
SPURS (2) 3 (Falco 2, Villa)
Att: 35,000
SPURS (0) 3 (Galvin, Falco, Ardiles)
AJAX (0) 0
Att: 34,606
Spurs win 6-1 on aggregate

Second Round

DUNDALK (Eire) (0) 1 (Fairclough)
SPURS (0) 1 (Crooks)
Att: 17,000
SPURS (0) 1 (Crooks)
DUNDALK (0) 0
Att: 33,455
Spurs win 2-1 on aggregate

Quarter-Final

SPURS (0) 2 (Miller, Hazard)
EINTRACHT (W. Germany) (0) 0
Att: 38,172
EINTRACHT (2) 2 (Borchers, Cha)
Spurs (0) 1 (Hoddle)
Att: 44,000
Spurs win 3-2 on aggregate

EUROPEAN SEMI-FINALS DRAW

European Cup

CSKA Sofia v Bayern Munich
ASTON VILLA v Anderlecht

Cup Winners' Cup

Dynamo Tbilisi v Standard Liege
SPURS v Barcelona

UEFA Cup

Kaiserslautern v Gothenburg
Radnicki v Hamburg

● First legs to be played April 7. Second legs April 21.

BARCELONA

Spanish League Champions: 1948, 1949, 1952, 1953, 1959, 1960, 1974 (twice before 1948). Spanish Cup winners: 1951, 1952, 1953, 1957, 1959, 1963, 1968, 1971, 1978, 1981 (plus nine times before 1951). Cup Winners' Cup 1979.

ANDERLECHT

Belgian League Champions: 1947, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1959, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1972, 1974, 1981 (once before 1947). Belgian Cup winners: 1965, 1972, 1973, 1975, 1976. Cup Winners' Cup winners: 1976, 1978.

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NIGHT FOR VILLA AND SPURS

AC

wanted to avoid.

"Bayern have some world class players in people like Rummenigge and Breitner and we said if we had to meet them, we'd prefer it to be in the Final.

"But at this stage, there are no easy games and any side that can knock four goals past Red Star Belgrade — as Anderlecht did — are going to be tough.

"I last played in Anderlecht back in 1969 for Manchester United in the European Cup.

"As I recall, the stadium is very much like those of Queen's Park Rangers and West Ham. The supporters are nearly on top of you.

"Unlike most foreign stadiums, there isn't a running track separating players from fans.

"I don't know much about them as a team, but I don't think it's important. You can know too much and spend the build-up to the game worrying about different players. Let them do the worrying.

"Because we haven't got a game on FA Cup Semi-Final day, caretaker manager Tony Barton is going over there to watch Anderlecht play. He'll tell us all we need to know about them."

On the same night as Villa maintain their bid to keep the European Cup in England, team of the moment Spurs will be hoping to take another step towards bringing the European Cup Winners' Cup back to Britain for the first time since Rangers won it in season 1971-72.

Incredibly, their tie against Spanish Cup holders Barcelona presents the treble-chasing London side with their third semi-final of the season and skipper Steve Perryman says: "We're getting used to the big match occasions now!"

But Tottenham will be without Argentinian midfield ace Osvaldo Ardiles, who is returning 'home' to prepare for the World Cup Finals, and Steve admits:

Despite a lunging challenge, Villa striker Gary Shaw manages to get in his shot to fire his side into a 1-0 lead against Dynamo Kiev at Villa Park.



"Naturally we'd have preferred to have had Ossie with us because of his fantastic experience in international football.

It's the club's first season in Europe for six years and therefore it's new to a lot of players.

"But I think we are playing with a lot of confidence and whilst we'll be without Ossie, we still have Ricky Villa — and young Mike Hazard has come in and done a good job for us."

Spurs' opponents are currently on course to collect their tenth Spanish League Championship.

They lead the First Division by five points from Real Sociedad with six matches to go.

So the team is in form . . . and so too is their international striker Quini who currently leads the race to find the Spanish First Division's leading goalscorer with 23 goals — nine clear of his nearest challenger, Alonso of Zaragoza.

But at least Spurs have avoided a trek to Russia and Steve admits: "I didn't really fancy a journey to Tbilisi — especially with our fixture commitments.

"I don't profess to know too much about Standard Liege — the other side left in — other than their history, although they could have



Above: Villa goalkeeper Jimmy Rimmer: "It would be a tremendous boost for football here if we could make it a double hat-trick of wins for England in the European Cup."

Left: Spurs skipper Steve Perryman: "We are playing with a lot of confidence."

been the better draw from our point of view.

"Having said that, it's probably better with Barcelona out of the way now with the Final scheduled to be played at their stadium."

Looking back on Spurs' performances in the Cup Winners' Cup this season, Steve says:

"We played very well against Ajax in the First Round and I think we frightened a few people with our 6-1 aggregate victory.

"But we had a scare against Eintracht Frankfurt in the Quarter-Finals.

"We struggled to score early on in the home leg, but finally came out 2-0 winners.

"But in the first 20 minutes of the second leg in Germany, they absolutely tore us apart.

"I think our trouble was trying to slow the game down too much, but we showed a lot of character to come back at them and finally came out 3-2 winners on aggregate.

"We are at home in the first leg again this time but while I'd have preferred it the other way round,

it's something we'll just have to tackle.

"Our coach Peter Shreeves went out to watch Barcelona and saw them beaten 3-0 by Valencia, but we'll be taking them very seriously.

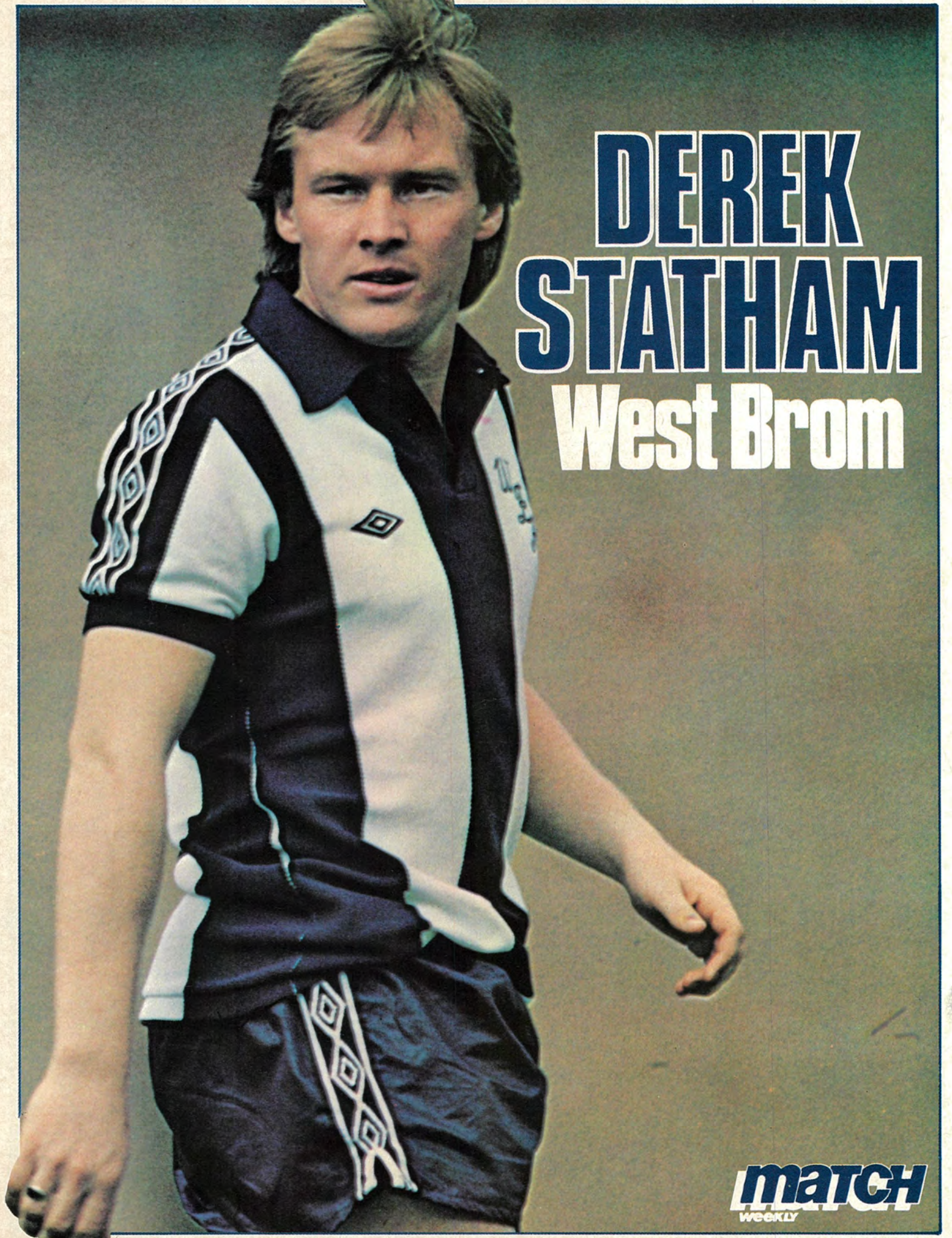
"Not that we've been doing so badly ourselves in terms of support at White Hart Lane.

"I think the large crowds we have been getting bears tribute to the way the team has been playing . . . and all credit to the fans for supporting a team that wants to play football.

"But we mustn't get too carried away with providing entertainment and flair against Barcelona. It's more of a thinking game in Europe, rather than the blood and thunder of a one-off English cup tie. There are times when you have to close things down."

Spurs defender Paul Miller (left) fires the first goal in Tottenham's 2-0 Cup Winners' Cup Quarter-Final first leg victory over Eintracht Frankfurt at White Hart Lane.





DEREK STATHAM

West Brom

match
weekly

PAUL HEGARTY DUNDEE UTD & SCOTLAND

FULL NAME: Paul Anthony Hegarty.
BIRTHPLACE/DATE: Edinburgh, July 25, 1954.
HEIGHT/WEIGHT: 5ft 10½ins/10st 12lbs.
MARRIED: Yes, to Linda.
CHILDREN: Two boys, Paul (3) and Mark (10 months).
CAR: Renault Fuego TL.
PREVIOUS CLUB: Hamilton.
TRADE BEFORE TURNING PRO: Insurance clerk.
CLUB NICKNAME: 'Flipper'.
FAVOURITE PLAYER AND WHY: My team mate Paul Sturrock who is a player with flair and goalscoring ability.
FAVOURITE OTHER TEAM: Tottenham.
FAVOURITE FOREIGN PLAYER AND WHY: Diego Maradona, a world class player with all-round ability.
BEST ALL TIME BRITISH TEAM: Banks, McGrain, Cooper, Bremner, J. Charlton, Moore, Johnstone, Ball, R. Charlton, Law, Best.
ALL-TIME INTERNATIONAL XI: Banks (England), Kaltz (W. Germany), Cooper (England), Beckenbauer (W. Germany), Kroll (Holland), Moore (England), Johnstone (Scotland), Law (Scotland), Muller (W. Germany), Pele (Brazil), Best (N. Ireland).
FAVOURITE AWAY GROUND: Aberdeen.
FAVOURITE STADIUM AT WHICH YOU HAVE PLAYED: Borussia Moenchengladbach, West Germany.
BEST GOAL SCORED: A volley against Kilmarnock in 1978.
BEST GOAL SEEN SCORED: One by Cyrille Regis this season against Norwich in F.A. Cup.
MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: Playing for Scotland against England at Wembley in 1979.
OWN MAGIC MOMENT IN FOOTBALL: Winning the Scottish League Cup for the first time and playing for Scotland.
BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT: Losing to Rangers in last season's Scottish F.A. Cup Final.
WHO WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO MEET: Gary Player.
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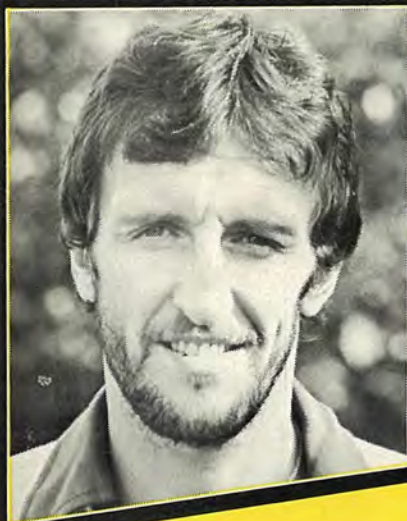
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The DAVID CROSS COLUMN

West Ham striker David Cross looks ahead to Saturday's FA Cup Semi-Finals and names his two for Wembley.

Seconds out!

I'm going for a West Brom versus Tottenham FA Cup Final at Wembley next month.

It would be great if Second Division teams Leicester and Queen's Park Rangers could upset the odds, but on Semi-Final day, one must side with logic.

It's not an opinion that is based purely on the question of superior skill and talent, but more on experience of the big occasion.

Semi-Finals can be more nerve-racking than the actual Wembley showpiece. No-one wants to lose at this stage because, at the end of the day, nobody remembers the losers. The team that makes the least mistakes usually end up walking up that famous tunnel on Cup Final day.

And on that score, I feel that the two First Division clubs will make the least errors on the day.

The draw has been rather unkind to the underdogs. I'm sure that Leicester and QPR would have preferred facing each other at this stage.

Once you get into the Final, you don't mind who is in the other corner because it's not such a bad feeling if you lose at Wembley.

Once there, then you pray that the sun will shine on you as it did for West

'I'm going for Spurs and Albion ...'

Ham in 1980 when we managed to hang on to an early lead against Arsenal.

Without doubt, Arsenal were the better side on the day, but we seemed destined to win it. If it had been a Semi-Final, Arsenal might well have beaten us.

Once West Ham are knocked out of the FA Cup, I'm really not bothered who lifts the Cup at Wembley but for purely sentimental reasons, I would love to see my old club West Brom win it.

It would be nice for my old team-mates like John Wile, Ally Brown and Ally Robertson to enjoy the same thrill I experienced when West Ham won the Cup two years ago.

They are all very honest professionals and Cup victory would be the icing on the cake for them.

But I'm sure that players like John Wile would be the first to admit that you get what you deserve from football.

The only thing footballers deserve at the end of the week is their wages. If medals and cups come along, then that is a bonus.

With players like Wile and Robertson at the back, I believe that West Brom will be less prone to mistakes than Rangers.

There has been a lot of ballyhoo surrounding Rangers' artificial pitch, but in my book Rangers are in the Semi-Finals on merit.

The Rangers players have to re-adjust to grass every other week, which people tend to overlook. Their opposition only has to adjust once in a season to the artificial surface.

The games have been there to win and they haven't broken any rules, so good luck to them in the Semi-Finals.

I have always been a fan of striker Mike Flanagan, and young Clive Allen seems to have rediscovered his goalscoring touch.

But West Brom are strong at the back, and if Rangers make mistakes, then big Cyrille Regis will be around to



Queen's Park Rangers striker Mike Flanagan — I've always been a fan of his.

punish them.

If anything is certain in football, then it's that Leicester will produce plenty of hard work against Tottenham in the other Semi-Final.

But again, the Leicester side may fall short on experience with only Eddie Kelly really used to occasions like this.

On the other hand, virtually the whole of the Tottenham side have become accustomed to the big occasion with four Wembley appearances in the past year.

I just feel that Tottenham will have too much for Leicester in every aspect of the game.

It will be a battle of nerves rather than talent and, in that department, one must side with experience.

It is still possible for Tottenham to complete a grand treble — League Championship, FA Cup and European Cup Winners' Cup.

Any side that is in two semi-finals and within striking distance of the top of the First Division must be the form team of the season.

The treble is a tall order when you consider the pressures, a backlog of fixtures and possible injuries, but they obviously have the ability to achieve it.

David Cross

● David Cross was talking to Melvyn Beck.

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PLAYER RATINGS

- 10 Out of this world
- 9 Outstanding
- 8 Excellent
- 7 Good
- 6 Adequate
- 5 Off form
- 4 Poor

MATCH RATINGS

- ★★★★★ A classic
- ★★★★★ Good value
- ★★★★★ Satisfactory
- ★★★ Dull
- ★ A waste of money

Sunday, Mar. 21

Division Four

BRADFORD (2) 3 (Lester 9, Gallagher, pen 26, Jones, og 89)
TORQUAY (0) 0
 Att: 4,774
Bradford: Ramsbottom 7, Podd 8, Watson 7, Ingham 7, Jackson 8, ★**McFARLAND** 9, Lester 8, Gallagher 8, Staniforth 7, McNiven 7, Chapman 7.
Torquay: O'Keefe 6, Jones 6, Wilson 6, ★**TAINTON** 8, Lawrence 7, Brown 6, Sermanni 7, Cox 6, Cooper 6 (sub. Winn 6), Rioch 6, Young 6.
 Referee: R. Chadwick (Darwen)
 Match Rating: ★★★

Monday, Mar. 22

Division Three

BRENTFORD (1) 1 (Bowles, pen 44)
BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 0
 Att: 5,843
Brentford: McKellar 7, Rowe (sub. Booker 6), Hill 6, Salman 7, ★**WHITEHEAD** 8, Hurlock 6, Kamara 6, Johnson 7, Bowen 6, Bowles 7, Roberts 6.
Bristol Rovers: ★**KITE** 8, Jones 6, Hughes 7, Bailey 7, Parkin 6, Mabbutt 6, Slatter 6, Williams, D 6, Stephens 7, Randall 6 (sub. Curle), Barratt 6.
 Referee: D. A. Hedges (Oxford)
 Match Rating: ★★

Division Four

STOCKPORT (0) 0
COLCHESTER (0) 0
 Att: 1,740
Stockport: Lloyd 7, Rutter 7, Sherlock 7, Emmerson 7, Thorpe 6, Smith 7, Williams 6, ★**PHILLIPS** 8, Coyle 7, Park 7, Stafford 7.
Colchester: Walker 7, Cook 7, Coleman 7, ★**LESLIE** 8, Wignall 7, Wright 7, Cotton 6, Bremner 7, Osborne 6, Longhorn 6, Allinson 7.
 Referee: G. Flint (Kirkby)
 Match Rating: ★★★

SCOTTISH

Second Division

ALLOA (4) 5 (McComb 3, 30, 77, Murray 43, Holt 44)
MONTROSE (0) 0
 Att: 400

Tuesday, Mar. 23

Division One

BIRMINGHAM (0) 0
TOTTENHAM (0) 0
 Att: 17,708
Birmingham: Wealdens 6, Langan 7, Hawker 6, Van den Hauwe 6, Scott 7, Curbishley 6, ★**DILLON** 8, MacDowall 6, Evans 6, Broadhurst 7, Van Mierlo 5.
Spurs: Clemence 7, Hughton 7, Miller 6, ★**ROBERTS** 8, Hazard 6, Perryman 7, Ardiles 6, Gibson 5 (sub. Lacy), Galvin 5, Falco 6, Villa 6.
 Referee: K. Hackett (Sheffield)
 Match Rating: ★★

Division Two

BARNESLEY (2) 3 (Aylott 42, Walker 43, Banks 70)
GRIMSBY (0) 2 (Drinkell 56, Whymark 82)
 Att: 15,383
Barnesley: Horn 6, Longden 6, Chambers 6, Glavin 7, Banks 7, McCarthy 6, Evans 6, ★**WALKER** 8, Aylott 7, Mann 6, Birch 7.
Grimsby: Batch 6, Moore, D 6, Crombie 6, Waters 6, Cooper 6, Moore, K 7, Brolly 7, Kilmore 7, ★**DRINKELL** 8, Beacock 7, Cumming 6 (sub. Whymark).
 Referee: D. Scott (Burnley)
 Match Rating: ★★★

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0
LEICESTER (0) 2 (Lynex 7, Lineker 15)
 Att: 9,506
Crystal Palace: Barron 7, Hinshelwood 6, Boulter 6, (sub. Brooks 7), Murphy 6, Wicks 7, Gilbert 7, Hilaire 6, Smillie 7, ★**LANGLEY** 8, Mabbutt 7, Cannon 7.
Leicester: Walker 7, Williams 6, Friar 7, Peake 8, May 6, Welsh 7, Lynex 8 (sub. Melrose), Lineker 7, ★**YOUNG** 9, Wilson 6, MacDonald 7.
 Referee: D. Hedges (Oxford)
 Match Rating: ★★★

Division Three

CARLISLE (2) 2 (Coughlin 3, Robson 20)
READING (0) 1 (Webb, pen 46)
 Att: 4,557
Carlisle: Swinburne 7, Parker 6, Rushbury 7, Houghton 6, Ashurst 7, Craig 6, Ritchie 6, ★**COUGHLIN** 8, Robson 7, Lee 6, Staniforth 7.

Reading: Fearon 6, Cullen 6, White 6 (sub. Donnellan 7), ★**WEBB** 8, Hicks 7, Wood 7, Beavon 6, Kearney 7, Dixon 6, Sanchez 7, Lewis 6.
 Referee: D. Richardson (Great Harwood)
 Match Rating: ★★★

DONCASTER (0) 1 (Lister 75)
OXFORD (1) 1 (Seacole 22)
 Att: 3,800
Doncaster: Boyd 6, Russell 7, Dawson 5, Snodin, I 7, Lister 7, ★**HUMPHRIES** 8, Pugh 6 (sub. Harle 6), Little 6, Douglas 7, Snodin, G 6, Mell 6.
Oxford: Burton 7, Fogg 6, Smithers 5, Jeffery 7 (sub. Kingston 5), Briggs 7, Shotton 6, ★**BROCK** 8, Berry 5, Kearns 7, Thomas 6, Seacole 7.
 Referee: A. Banks (Manchester)
 Match Rating: ★★★

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 (Lillis 30)
CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 (Windridge 86)
 Att: 6,721
Huddersfield: Cox 7, Brown 7, Burke 6, Stanton 7, Sutton 6, Hanvey 7, ★**LILLIS** 8, Kennedy 7, Fletcher 7, Robins 6, Cowling 7.
Chesterfield: Turner 7, Stirk 6, O'Neill 6, Wilson 7, Hunter 7 (sub. Athersych 6), Pollard 7, Windridge 7, ★**HENDERSON** 8, Bonnyman 6, Ridley 7, Crawford 7.
 Referee: R. Nixon (Stockport)
 Match Rating: ★★★

WIMBLEDON (2) 3 (Smith 14, Evans 28, Joseph 63)
SOUTHEND (0) 0
 Att: 2,051
Wimbledon: Beasant 6, Brown 6, Armstrong 6, Smith 7, Morris 6, Downes 6, Ketteridge 7, Joseph 7, Evans 6, ★**HODGES** 8 (sub. Leslie), Elliott 6.
Southend: Keeley 6, Dudley 5, Yates 6, Pennyfather 6 (sub. Greaves 6), Moody 6, Cusack 5, ★**POUNTNEY** 7, Phillips 5, Nelson 6, Mercer 6, Otulakowski 6.
 Referee: A. Grey (Great Yarmouth)
 Match Rating: ★★★

Division Four

CREWE (0) 1 (Palios 60)
HEREFORD (0) 0
 Att: 1,326
Crewe: Mulhearn 6, Lewis 6, Griffiths 6, Salathiel 7, Scott 6, Palios 6, ★**HASLEGRAVE** 6, Keighley 6, Chesters 5, Howat 6, Williams 7.
Hereford: Brand 7, ★**PRICE** 8, Pejic 6, Hicks 6, Bartley 6, Spiring 7, McGrellis 6, Laidlaw 6, Phillips 5, Showers 5, White 6.
 Referee: A. Seville (Birmingham)
 Match Rating: ★★
 Sending Off: Phillips (Hereford)

DARLINGTON (2) 2 (Speedie 9, Walsh 25)
HULL (0) 1 (Flounders 54)
 Att: 2,651
Darlington: Cuff 7, Kamara 7, Wilson 5, Smith 6, Skipper 7, ★**SPEEDIE** 8, McFadden 6, McLean 5, Hawker 6, Hamilton 6, Walsh 7.
Hull: Norman 6, Richards 6, Booth 7, Roberts, D 7, Thompson 6, Davis 5, ★**MARWOOD** 8, McClaren 7, Whitehurst 6, Flounders 7, Deacy 6.
 Referee: C. Seel (Carlisle)
 Match Rating: ★★★

HALIFAX (0) 0
BRADFORD (0) 0
 Att: 5,921
Halifax: ★**KILNER** 8, Chamberlain 6, Carr 7, Evans 7, Ayre 7, Hendrie 7, Ward 6, Davison 7, Graham 6, Spooner 7, Firth 6.
Bradford: Ramsbottom 7, Podd 7, Watson 6, Ingham 6, ★**COOKE** 8, McFarland 7, Lester 7, Gallagher 7, Campbell 6, McNiven 6, Chapman 7.
 Referee: N. Midgley (Salford)
 Match Rating: ★★★

NORTHAMPTON (3) 5 (Buchanan 10, 80, Czuczman, og 11, Perrin 44, Aitken, og 52)
YORK (0) 0
 Att: 2,452
Northampton: Poole 7, Brady 6, Carlton 6, Kruse 8, Gage 7, Saxby 7, ★**BUCHANAN** 9, Coffill 6, Sandy 6, Perrin 7, Massey 6.
York: Astbury 7, Sweeney 5, Dawson 5, Czuczman 5 (sub. Fell 5), Aitken 7, Hood 6, Kay 6, ★**LAVERICK** 8, Byrne 5, Walwyn 6, Crosby 6.
 Referee: C. L. Newsome (Brosley)
 Match Rating: ★★
 Sending Off: Byrne (York)

SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Telfer 71)
ALDERSHOT (1) 1 (Sanford 34)
 Att: 1,648
Scunthorpe: Neenan 6, Davy 5, ★**HUGHES**

8, Boyd 6, Dall 5, Oates 6, Arins 6, Telfer 7, Botham 6, Moss 7, Stewart 5.
Aldershot: Johnson 7, Edwards 6, Scott 5, Wanklyn 5, Bennett 6, Wooler 6, McGregor 7, McDonald 6, ★**FRENCH** 8, Sanford 6, Robinson 7.
 Referee: J. D. Hough (Macclesfield)
 Match Rating: ★★★

SHEFFIELD UNITED (0) 1 (Edwards 89)
WIGAN (0) 0
 Att: 22,336
Sheff Utd: Waugh 7, Casey 7, Garner 7, Matthews 6, Houston 7, Kenworthy 7, ★**MORRIS** 8, Trusson 7, Edwards 6, Hatton 7, King 6.
Wigan: Tunks 6, McMahon 7, Cribbley 7, Weston 7, ★**LLOYD** 8, Methven 7, O'Keefe 6, Barrow 6, Bradd 6 (sub. Quinn), Houghton 6, Evans 7.
 Referee: G. J. Napthine (Loughborough)
 Match Rating: ★★★

Friendlies

ATHLETICO BILBAO (0) 1 (Sarabia)
ENGLAND XI (1) 1 (Keegan)
 Att: 40,000

SCOTLAND (2) 2 (Gray pen, Dalglish)
HOLLAND (1) 1 (Kieft)
 Att: 71,848

Under-21 Friendly

WALES (1) 2 (Davies, Rutter og)
HOLLAND (2) 2 (Koolof 2)
 Att: 530

Wednesday, Mar. 24

Division One

WEST BROM (1) 2 (Regis 22, King 72)
NOTTS COUNTY (0) 4 (McCulloch 58, 59, 88, Mair 60)
 Att: 12,759
West Brom: Grew 6, Batson 6, Statham 6 (sub. Brown 6), Bennett 5, Wile 6, Robertson 6, Cross 5, King 7, ★**REGIS** 8, Owen 6, Zondervan 6.
Notts County: Avramovic 6, Benjamin 8, O'Brien 7, Goodwin 8, Kilcline 7, Richards 8, McParland 7, Harkouk 6 (sub. Hunt 6), ★**McCULLOCH** 9, Christie 7, Mair 8.
 Referee: D. Owen (Wirral)
 Match Rating: ★★

Division Three

EXETER (0) 1 (Rogers, M 63)
LINCOLN (0) 2 (Hibberd, pen 62, pen 82)
 Att: 3,082
Exeter: Bond 5, Kirkup 6, Sparrow 5, Rogers, M 6, ★**FOSTER** 7, Roberts 6, Pratt 5, Rogers, P 6, Kellow 6, Delve 5, Pullar 6.
Lincoln: ★**FELGATE** 8, Carr 6, Neale 7, Cockerill 7, Peake 7, Thompson 6, Beavon 6, Turner 6, Hobson 6, Cunningham 7, Hibberd 7.
 Referee: L. Robinson (Sutton Coldfield)
 Match Rating: ★★

Division Four

PETERBOROUGH (1) 1 (Smith 6)
TORQUAY (0) 0
 Att: 4,045
Peterborough: Freeman 6, Butler 5, Phillips 5, Gynn 6, Smith 7, Rodaway 6, Clarke 5 (sub. Syrett), ★**KELLOCK** 8, Cooke 6, Hodgson 5, Chard 6.
Torquay: O'Keefe 6, Jones 5 (sub. Cooper 5), Wheelodon 5, Tainton 5, Lawrence 5, Wilson 6, Sermanni 6, ★**COX** 7, Brown 5, Rioch 5, Young 5.
 Referee: J. Moules (Ongar)
 Match Rating: ★★

Internationals

FRANCE (2) 4 (Zenier, Couriol, Larios pen, Genghini)
NORTHERN IRELAND (0) 0
 Att: 34,000

SPAIN (1) 1 (Saturstegui)
WALES (0) 1 (James, R)
 Att: 30,000

MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

SCOTTISH

First Division

ST JOHNSTONE (2) 3 (Brogan 11, 35, Beedie 67)
EAST STIRLING (0) 2 (Blair 55, 89)
 Att: 1,537

Second Division

COWDENBEATH (0) 1 (Forrest 69)
ARBROATH (2) 2 (Harley 8, Robb 40)
 Att: 270

FORFAR (0) 1 (Clark 60)
CLYDE (1) 3 (Reilly 23, 58, 79)
 Att: 1,341
 Sending Off: Reilly (Clyde)

Friday, Mar. 26

Division Four

COLCHESTER (0) 2 (Bremner 54, Coleman 78)
HULL (0) 0
 Att: 2,193
Colchester: Walker 7, Cook 5, Coleman 6, Leslie 6, Wignall 6, Wright 5, Adcock 6 (sub. Allinson 7), Bremner 6, ★**OSBORNE 8**, Cotton 7, Longhorn 6.
Hull: Norman 6, Richards 5 (sub. Ferguson), Booth 6, Roberts 6, Thompson 5, ★**DAVIS 7**, Marwood 6, McClaren 6, Whitehurst 5, Flounders 6, Deacy 6.
Referee: C. Downey (Hounslow)
Match Rating: ★★★

STOCKPORT (0) 1 (Coyle 56)
DARLINGTON (0) 0
 Att: 1,831
Stockport: Lloyd 7, Rutter 7, Sherlock 6, Emmerson 7, Thorpe 7, Smith 7, Williams 6, Phillips 7, ★**COYLE 8**, Park 7, Stafford 7.
Darlington: Cuff 7, Kamara 6, Liddle 6, Smith 5, Skipper 7, ★**SPEEDIE 8**, McFadden 6, McLean 6, Hawker 7, Hamilton 6, Walsh 6.
Referee: K. W. Baker (Rugby)
Match Rating: ★★★

YORK (1) 3 (Dall, og 35, Walwyn 51, Hood, pen 65)
SCUNTHORPE (0) 1 (Arins 90)
 Att: 2,189
York: Astbury 8, Sweeney 7, Dawson 7, Czuczman 7, Smith 6, Laverick 5, Hood 7, Aitken 8, Ford 7, ★**BYRNE 9** (sub. Crosby), Walwyn 7.
Scunthorpe: Neenan 7, Arins 7, Keeley 6, Thompson 6, Dall 6, Oates 6, Hammill 7, Boyd 6, Telfer 6, Moss 6, ★**GOODLASS 8**.
Referee: N. Midgley (Salford)
Match Rating: ★★★

Saturday, Mar. 27

Division One

ARSENAL (2) 4 (Sunderland 2, Rix 23, 56, Meade 64)
ASTON VILLA (2) 3 (Shaw 19, Morley 38, Heard 65)
 Att: 24,756
Arsenal: Wood 7, Hollins 7, Sansom 7, Talbot 6, O'Leary 7, Whyte 7, Meade 7, Sunderland 7, Davis 7, Robson 7, ★**RIX 9**.
Aston Villa: ★**RIMMER 9**, Swain 7, Jones 7, Evans 6, McNaught 6, Heard 8, Bullivant 6, Shaw 6, Withe 6, Cowans 7, Morley 7.
Referee: C. A. Maskell (Cambridge)
Match Rating: ★★★★★

BIRMINGHAM (0) 1 (Harford 68)
BRIGHTON (0) 0
 Att: 13,234
Birmingham: Wealands 6, Langan 7, Hawker 7, Stevenson 6, Scott 6, Curbishley 6, Dillon 7, Evans 6, ★**HARFORD 8**, Broadhurst 7, Van Mierlo 6.
Brighton: Digweed 6, Stevens 6, Shanks 6, Grealish 6, Foster 5, Gattling 6, Ryan 5 (sub. Thomas), Ritchie 6, Robinson 5, ★**McNAB 7**, Smith 5.
Referee: A. Robinson (Radcliffe)
Match Rating: ★★

COVENTRY (0) 0
WOLVES (0) 0
 Att: 11,514
Coventry: Sealey 7, Thomas 7, Roberts 7,

Jacobs 6, Dyson 6, ★**GILLESPIE 8**, Whitton 6, Francis 6, Hateley 7, English 7, Butterworth 5.
Wolves: ★**BRADSHAW 8**, Humphrey 6, Palmer 5, Matthews 6, Pender 6, Coy 6, Hibbitt 6, Carr 6, Gray 5, Eves 7, Kernan 6.
Referee: J. E. Martin (Alton)
Match Rating: ★★

EVERTON (1) 1 (Sharp 23)
LIVERPOOL (1) 3 (Whelan 21, Souness 57, Johnston 81)
 Att: 51,813
Everton: Southall 7, Borrows 6, Ratcliffe 7, Higgins 7, Wright 7, Richardson 8, Irvine 7, Heath 8, Sharp 8, ★**McMAHON 9**, Ross 7.
Liverpool: Grobbelaar 8, Neal 7, Lawrenson 8, Kennedy 8, Whelan 8, Thompson 7, ★**DALGLISH 9**, Lee 7, Rush 8, Johnston 8, Souness 7.
Referee: K. Walmsley (Blackpool)
Match Rating: ★★★★★

MANCHESTER UNITED (0) 0
SUNDERLAND (0) 0
 Att: 40,776
Man Utd: ★**BAILEY 8**, Gidman 7, Albiston 6, Wilkins 7, McQueen 7, Buchan 6, Robson 7, Birtles 5 (sub. McGarvey), Stapleton 6, Moses 5, Coppell 6.
Sunderland: ★**TURNER 8**, Venison 6, Munro 6, Hindmarch 6, Arnott 6, Elliott 7, Buckley 6, McCoist 6, Rowell 6, Pickering 7, Cummins 6.
Referee: A. Challinor (Maltby)
Match Rating: ★★

MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 0
MANCHESTER CITY (0) 0
 Att: 11,709
Middlesbrough: Platt 6, Nattrass 6, Bailey 7, Ross 6, Baxter 6, Angus 6, ★**WOOD 8**, Otto 6, Hodgson 6, Ashcroft 7, Thomas 7 (sub. Woolf 6).
Man City: Corrigan 6, Ranson 6, ★**WILSON 8**, Reid 7, Jackson 6 (sub. May 6), Caton 7, Kinsey 6, Reeves 6, Francis 6, Elliott 6, Hareide 6.
Referee: R. D. Hutchinson (Harrogate)
Match Rating: ★★

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 2 (Harkouk 68, Hunt 79)
LEEDS (1) 1 (Worthington 30)
 Att: 13,316
Notts County: Avramovic 7, Benjamin 6, O'Brien 6, Goodwin 7, Kilcline 6, Richards 6, McParland 7, ★**HARKOUK 8**, McCulloch 7, Christie 6 (sub. Hunt 6), Mair 7.
Leeds: ★**LUKIC 9**, Hird 7, Gray, E 6, Graham 7, Hart 6, Cherry 6, Connor 6, Thomas 6, Worthington 8, Gray, F 7, Barnes 8.
Referee: N. J. Ashley (Nantwich)
Match Rating: ★★★★★

SOUTHAMPTON (3) 4 (Waldron 24, Armstrong 28, Channon 33, Whitlock 86)
STOKE (0) 3 (Biley 49, Watson 62, McIlroy 76)
 Att: 20,058
Southampton: Katalinic 7, Golac 7, Holmes 6, Williams 6, Whitlock 6, Waldron 6, Keegan 7, ★**CHANNON 8**, Puckett 6, Armstrong 7, Ball 6.
Stoke: Fox 7, Parkin 7, Hampton 6, Dodd 6, Watson 7, McLaughtrie 6, McIlroy 7, O'Callaghan 6, ★**BILEY 8**, Bracewell 6, Griffiths 7.
Referee: B. J. Axcell (Southend)
Match Rating: ★★★★★

SWANSEA (1) 1 (James, R, pen 31)
IPSWICH (1) 2 (Brazil 20, Gates 88)
 Att: 20,750
Swansea: Davies 7, Stanley 7, Marustik 7, Irwin 7, Kennedy 7, Stevenson 6, ★**CURTIS 8**, James, R 6, James, L 6, Thompson 6, Mahoney 6.
Ipswich: Sivell 7, Burley 7, McCall 8, Mills 7, Osman 7, Steggles 7, ★**WARK 9**, Muhren 7, D'Avray 6, Brazil 8, Gates 7.
Referee: B. L. Newsome (Shropshire)
Match Rating: ★★★★★

WEST BROM (0) 1 (Regis 60)
TOTTENHAM (0) 0
 Att: 20,275
West Brom: Grew 7, Batson 7, Webb 6, Bennett 7, Wile 7, Robertson 7, Cross 6, King 7, ★**REGIS 8**, Owen 7, Zondervan 7.
Spurs: ★**CLEMENCE 8**, Hughton 7, Miller 6,



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MATCH FACTS MATCH MATCH MATCH

Roberts 7, Price 6, Perryman 7, Ardiles 6, Archibald 6, Galvin 6, Falco 6 (sub. Brooke 7), Villa 6.
Referee: F. Roberts (Prestatyn)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

WEST HAM (0) 0
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (1) 1 (Wallace 31)
 Att: 24,633
West Ham: Parkes 6, Stewart 6, Lampard 6, ★**BONDS** 7, Orr 6, Devonshire 6, Van der Elst 5, Goddard 6, Cross 6, Brooking 6, Allen 5 (sub. Neighbour).
Nott'm Forest: Shilton 6, Anderson 7, Bowyer 6, McGovern 6, Young 7, Gunn 7, Rober 7, ★**WALLACE** 8, Fashanu 7, Proctor 7, Robertson 7.
Referee: T. G. Bune (Cranleigh)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

Division Two

BLACKBURN (0) 1 (Bell 46)
CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0
 Att: 8,362
Blackburn: Gennoe 6, Branagan 6, Rathbone 6, Speight 5, ★**KEELEY** 7, Fazackerley 6, Miller 6, Stonehouse 5, Bell 6, Garner 5, Brotherston 5.
Crystal Palace: Barron 6, Hinshelwood 5, Boulter 5, Price 5, Brooks 5, Lovell 5 (sub. Bason 5), ★**GILES** 7, Hilaire 6, Langley 5, Mabbutt 5, Cannon 5.
Referee: G. M. Tyson (Sunderland)
Match Rating: ★★

DERBY (0) 0
LUTON (0) 0
 Att: 15,836
Derby: Banovic 6, Barton 6, ★**BUCKLEY** 8, Skivington 6, Sheridan 6, McAlle 6, George 5, Attley 7, Wilson 7, Swindiehurst 6, Emson 5.
Luton: Findlay 6, Stephens 6, Money 6, Horton 7, Goodyear 6, ★**DONAGHY** 8, Hill 6, Stein 7, White 6, Turner 7, Moss 6.
Referee: D. A. Webb (Sale)
Match Rating: ★★

GRIMSBY (0) 1 (Kilmore 55)
WREXHAM (0) 1 (Fox 79)
 Att: 6,216
Grimsb'y: Batch 6, Moore, D. 7, Crombie 6, Waters 5, Cooper 6, Moore, K. 7, Broly 5, Kilmore 7, ★**DRINKELL** 8, Beacock 6 (sub. Whymark 6), Cumming 6.
Wrexham: ★**NIEDZWIECKI** 8, Jones 6, Bater 6 (sub. Vinter), Davis 7, Dowman 7, Ronson 7, Leman 6, McNeil 6, Edwards 6, Fox 7, Carrodus 6.
Referee: J. E. Bray (Hinckley)
Match Rating: ★★

LEICESTER (0) 3 (Young 70, 81, MacDonald 77)
CHARLTON (1) 1 (Hales 36)
 Att: 13,681
Leicester: Walker 6, Williams 7, Friar 6, Peake 6, May 6, O'Neill 6 (sub. Melrose), Lynex 7, Lineker 6, ★**YOUNG** 9, Wilson 6, MacDonald 6.
Charlton: Phillips, J. 6, Naylor 6, ★**ELLIOTT** 8, Mehmet 6, Gritt 7, Phillips, L. 6, Ambrose 6 (sub. Lansdowne), Walsh 6, Hales 6, Berry 6, Robinson 6.
Referee: G. E. Flint (Kirkby-in-Ashfield)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

NEWCASTLE (1) 1 (Waddle 43)
CHELSEA (0) 0
 Att: 26,887
Newcastle: Carr 7, ★**BROWNIE** 8, Saunders 7, Treweek 7, Carney 6, Haddock 7, Mills 6, Martin 7, Varadi 6, Cartwright 7, Waddle 7.
Chelsea: Francis 7, Locke 7, Hutchings 6, Nutton 6, Chivers 7, Pates 7, Rhoades-Brown 6 (sub. Walker), Viljoen 6, Lee 6, Mayes 7, ★**FILLERY** 8.
Referee: K. Hackett (Sheffield)
Match Rating: ★★

NORWICH (0) 2 (Jack 59, Bertschin 80)
CARDIFF (0) 1 (Gilbert 79)
 Att: 12,720
Norwich: Woods 7, Haylock 7, Downs 7, McGuire 6, Walford 7, Watson 7, Jack 7, ★**O'NEILL** 9, Deehan 8, Bertschin 6, Mendham 7.
Cardiff: Healey 7, Jones 7, Gilbert 7, Pontin 7, Hughes 6 (sub. Micallef 6), Mullen 6, Grapes 7, ★**HENDERSON** 8, Kitchen 7, Bennett 6, Stevens 6.
Referee: D. Reeves (Uxbridge)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

OLDHAM (1) 1 (Heaton, pen 5)
BARNLEY (1) 1 (Glavin 21)
 Att: 8,939
Oldham: Futcher 6, Hoolickin 6, Ryan 6, Keegan 7, Firm 5, Futcher 7, Wyld 6, Heaton 6, Palmer 6, McDonough 6, ★**ATKINSON** 8.

Barnley: Horn 6, Longden 6, Chambers 6, Glavin 7, ★**BANKS** 8, McCarthy 7, Evans 6 (sub. McHale), Walker 7, Aylott 7, Mann 6, Birch 7.
Referee: J. Lovatt (Crewe)
Match Rating: ★★
Sending Off: Hoolickin (Oldham)

ROTHERHAM (1) 1 (Seasman 2)
QPR (0) 0
 Att: 10,472
Rotherham: Mountford 6, Forrest 7, Breckin 6, ★**HUGHES** 8, Stancliffe 7, Green 7, Townner 6, Gow 7, Moore 6, Seasman 7, McEwan 7.
QPR: Hucker 6 (sub. Burke 5), Neill 6, Fenwick 5, Waddock 6, ★**HAZEL** 8, Wicks 6, Micklewhite 7, Flanagan 6, Allen 7, Stainrod 6, Dawes 7.
Referee: R. A. Banks (Manchester)
Match Rating: ★★
Sending Off: Moore (Rotherham), Fenwick and Micklewhite (QPR)

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (0) 2 (Taylor 55, Megson 66)
ORIENT (0) 0
 Att: 16,460
Sheff Wed: Bolder 7, Blackhall 6, Williamson 7, Smith 7, Pickering 7, ★**TAYLOR** 8, Megson 7, Mirocevic 7, Bannister 6, Pearson 7, Curran 6 (sub. Shelton 7).
Orient: Day 7, Foster 6, ★**ROFFEY** 8, Fisher 6, Gray 7, Banjo 7, Godfrey 7, Houchen 6, Moores 6, Silkman 6, Sussex 6.
Referee: D. Owen (Wirral)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

SHREWSBURY (1) 1 (Atkins 36)
CAMBRIDGE (0) 0
 Att: 3,159
Shrewsbury: Wardle 7, Leonard 6, Johnson 7, Cross 6, Blake 8, MacLaren 7, Biggins 6 (sub. Gibson), ★**TONG** 9, Atkins 7, Dungworth 7, Bates 6.
Cambridge: Key 6, Donaldson 7, Murray 7, ★**SMITH** 8, Fallon 7, Nicholls 6 (sub. Finney), Cartwright 6, O'Neill 6, Gibbins 6, Reilly 7, Streete 6.
Referee: R. Chadwick (Darwen)
Match Rating: ★★

WATFORD (1) 3 (Lohman 3, Blissett 62, 89)
BOLTON (0) 0
 Att: 12,937
Watford: Steele 7, Rice 7, Pritchett 7, Taylor 8, Terry 7, Bolton 7, Rostron 8 (sub. Armstrong 7), Blissett 8, Jenkins 7, ★**LOHMAN** 9, Barnes 7.
Bolton: McDonagh 6, Whitworth 6, Bennett 4, Henry 6, Jones 5, McElhinney 4, Chandler 6, Foster 4, ★**GOWLING** 7, Hoggan 5, Langley 4 (sub. Berry 4).
Referee: R. G. Milford (Bristol)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

Division Three

BRISTOL CITY (0) 0
BRENTFORD (0) 1 (Bowen 64)
 Att: 5,997
Bristol City: Shaw 7, Stevens 6, Hay 7, Newman 5 (sub. Boyle 6), Nicholls 6, ★**WILLIAMS** 8, Musker 7, Bray 6, Chandler 5, Carter 5, Economou 6.
Brentford: McKellar 7, McNichol 6, Hill 7, Salaman 6, Whitehead 7, Hurlock 7, Kamara 6, Johnson 6, Bowen 6, ★**BOWLES** 8, Roberts 6.
Referee: D. W. Lloyd (Worcester)
Match Rating: ★★
Sending Off: Kamara (Brentford)

CHESTER (0) 0
PRESTON (0) 1 (Elliott 69)
 Att: 2,842
Chester: ★**HARRINGTON** 8, Raynor 6, Burns 5, Storton 7, Zelem 6, Oakes 5, Sutcliffe 6, Jones 7, Simpson 6, Ludlam 5, Henderson 6 (sub. Allen 6).
Preston: Hodge 6, Anderson 6, Naughton 5, McAteer 6, Booth 7, O'Riordan 5, Kelly 7, ★**DOYLE** 8, Elliott 7, Buckley 6, Bruce 6.
Referee: A. Seville (Birmingham)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

FULHAM (3) 4 (Brown 7, 81, Davies 23, O'Driscoll 24)
CARLISLE (0) 1 (Robson 49)
 Att: 7,477
Fulham: Peyton 6, Hopkins 7, Strong 6, O'Driscoll 7, ★**BROWN** 9, Gale 8, Davies 6, Wilson 6, Tempest 7, O'Sullivan 6, Lock 7.
Carlisle: Swinburne 6, Parker 7, Rushbury 7, Houghton 7, Ashurst 6, ★**CRAIG** 8, Ritchie 6, Coughlin 6, Robson 7, Lee 6, Staniforth 7.
Referee: M. J. Taylor (Kent)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

GILLINGHAM (1) 2 (White, pen 12, Price 89)
BRISTOL ROVERS (0) 0
 Att: 5,100
Gillingham: Hillyard 7, Sharpe 6, Adams 6, Bruce 7, Weatherly 7, Shaw 6, Sitton 6, ★**TYDEMAN** 8, White 6, Cascarino 7, Price 7.
Bristol Rovers: Kite 7, Jones 6, ★**SLATTER** 8, Bailey 6 (sub. Kelly 6), Parkin 7, Hughes 7, Barratt 7, Williams, D. 6, Stephens 6, Williams, B. 6, Mabbutt 7.
Referee: T. Ward (London)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

HUDDERSFIELD (1) 1 (Hanvey 35)
DONCASTER (0) 2 (Cawthorne 68, Harle 79)
 Att: 6,871
Huddersfield: Cox 6, Brown 6, Burke 6, Stanton 6, Sutton 6, Hanvey 7, Lillis 6, Kennedy 6, Hotte 7, ★**ROBINS** 8, Cowling 6 (sub. Fletcher).
Doncaster: Boyd 7, Humphries 6, Dawson 6 (sub. Harle 7), Snodin, I. 7, ★**CAWTHORNE** 8, Wigginton 7, Pugh 6, Liddell 7, Douglas 6, Snodin, G. 7, Lister 6.
Referee: D. Richardson (Great Harwood)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

LINCOLN (0) 1 (Stead, og 79)
SOUTHEND (0) 1 (Yates 84)
 Att: 5,455
Lincoln: Felgate 6, Carr 6, Neale 7, Cockerill 6, ★**PEAKE** 8, Rodgers 7, Beavon 6 (sub. Gilbert 6), Turner 6, Hobson 6, Cunningham 7, Hibberd 6.
Southend: Keeley 7, Stead 6, Yates 7, ★**HADLEY** 8, Moody 6, Cusack 6, Pountney 7, Phillips 6, Nelson 6, Mercer 6, Otulakowski 6.
Referee: A. Saunders (Newcastle)
Match Rating: ★★

NEWPORT (2) 2 (Serella, og 7, Tynan 20)
WALSALL (2) 2 (Penn 9, 11)
 Att: 3,484
Newport: Kendall 6, Lees 6 (sub. Moore 6), Vaughan 7, Davies 6, Thomas 7, Johnson 6, Elsey 7, ★**LOWNDES** 8, Tynan 7, Aldridge 6, Gwyther 6.
Walsall: Green 7, Macken 6, Mower 6, Loveridge 6 (sub. O'Kelly 6), Serella 5, Hart 7, Rees 6, Teasdale 6, ★**PENN** 9, Buckley 6, Caswell 7.
Referee: R. T. Spencer (Salisbury)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

OXFORD (0) 1 (Lawrence 48)
CHESTERFIELD (0) 1 (Bonnyman, pen 78)
 Att: 6,215
Oxford: Burton 6, Fogg 5, Smithers 6, Train 7, Briggs 6, Shotton 6, Lawrence 6, Kearns 5, Hebberd 6, Brock 7, ★**SEACOLE** 8.
Chesterfield: Gregory 7, Stirk 6, Pollard 6, ★**WILSON** 8, Bellamy 6, Ridley 6, Windridge 7 (sub. Partridge 6), Henderson 6, Bonnyman 7, Athersych 6, Crawford 6.
Referee: V. G. Callow (Solihull)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

PORTSMOUTH (0) 1 (Rafferty 84)
PLYMOUTH (0) 0
 Att: 9,551
Portsmouth: Knight 7, McLaughlin 5, Sullivan 6, Doyle 5, ★**AIZLEWOOD** 8, Ellis 6, Berry 6, Rafferty 7, Senior 5, Tait 6, Crown 5 (sub. Wembleton).
Plymouth: Crudgington 6, Nisbet 6, Uzzell 5, Harrison 6, Phillipson-Masters 6, Cooper 5, ★**HODGES** 7, Cook 6, Sims 5, Randall 5, Rogers 5.
Referee: A. Gunn (Burgess Hill)
Match Rating: ★★

READING (2) 4 (Dixon 19, 52, Kearney 38, Sanchez 57)
EXETER (0) 0
 Att: 3,365
Reading: Fearon 7, Williams 7, Hetzke 7, Webb 7 (sub. Cullen), ★**HICKS** 8, Wood 7, Beavon 7, Kearney 7, Dixon 7, Sanchez 6, Lewis 6.
Exeter: Bond 6, Kirkup 6, Sparrow 6, Mitchell 6 (sub. Pratt), Foster 6, Roberts 6, Giles 6, Rogers, P. 6, ★**KELLOW** 7, Robertson 6, Pullar 6.
Referee: B. Hill (Kettering)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

WIMBLEDON (0) 0
BURNLEY (0) 0
 Att: 2,642
Wimbledon: Beasant 7, Brown 6, Armstrong 7, Smith 6, Morris 7, Downes 7, Ketteridge 6, Joseph 7, Evans 6, ★**LESLIE** 8 (sub. Belfield), Elliott 7.
Burnley: Stevenson 7, Laws 6, Anderson 6, Scott 7, Overson 7, Phelan 7 (sub. Potts 6), Dobson 7, Steven 7, Hamilton 6, ★**McGEE** 8, Young 7.

Referee: A. R. Glasson (Salisbury)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

Division Four

BLACKPOOL (0) 2 (Bamber 56, 77)
PETERBOROUGH (1) 2 (Cooke 45, Kellock 52)
 Att: 2,855
Blackpool: Hesford 7, Simmonite 6, Brockbank 6, Deary 6, Hart 6, McEwan 7, Morgan 8, Stewart 6, ★**BAMBER** 9, Hockaday 7, Pashley 7.
Peterborough: Freeman 7, Butler 7, Phillips 7, Gynn 7, Smith 6, Rodaway 6, Clarke 6, Kellock 7, ★**COOKE** 8, Hodgson 6, Chard 7.
Referee: G. Courtney (Spennymoor)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★ ★★

BURY (0) 1 (Hilton, M 53)
ALDERSHOT (0) 1 (Wanklyn 80)
 Att: 3,068
Bury: Brown 7, Bradley 5, Kennedy 7, Gore 7, ★**BRAMHALL** 8, Howard 7, Smith 7, Butler 5, Madden 6, Hilton, M. 6, Jakub 6.
Aldershot: Johnson 7, Edwards (sub. Wanklyn 7), Wooler 7, Scott 6, Bennett 7, Briley 6, ★**McGREGOR** 8, McDonald 5, Sanford 6, French 7, Brodie 5.
Referee: T. Mills (Barnsley)
Match Rating: ★★

CREWE (0) 2 (Palios 50, Williams 60)
NORTHAMPTON (2) 2 (Saxby 1, 44)
 Att: 1,801
Crewe: Mulhearn 6, Lewis 7, Griffiths 5, Salathiel 7, Scott 7, Palios 6, Haslegrave 7, Keighley 6 (sub. Heath), Entwistle 6, Howat 6, ★**WILLIAMS** 8.
Northampton: Poole 6, Brady 6, Carlton 6, Gage 7, Kruse 7, Coffill 7, ★**SAXBY** 8, Buchanan 6, Bryant 6, Perrin 6, Massey 6.
Referee: R. B. Martin (Keyworth)
Match Rating: ★★

HARTLEPOOL (0) 0
BRADFORD (2) 2 (Gallagher, pen 39, Bird, og 43)
 Att: 2,512
Hartlepool: Watson 5, Linacre, J. 7, Linacre, P. 6, Hogan 6, ★**BIRD** 8, Brown 7, Bainbridge 5, Staff 6, Howard 6 (sub. Dobson 6), Linighan, D. 7, Johnson 5.
Bradford: Ramsbottom 6, ★**PODD** 8, Watson 6, Ingham 7, Cooke 7, McFarland 6, Lester 7, Gallagher 7, Campbell 6 (sub. Staniforth), McNiven 7, Chapman 7.
Referee: P. Richardson (Lincoln)
Match Rating: ★★ ★★

MATCH WINNERS

THIRTY-SIX World Cup records are going to the winners of our 'Win a Song for Spain' Competition which appeared in the March 13 issue.

Twelve winners each receive a "Viva England" record: Simon Peeks, Mapperley, Nottingham; Russell Jenkins, Bath, Avon; Lon McCarthy, Salford, Milton Keynes; Alan Brown, Grays, Essex; Frances Gundry, Dorchester, Dorset; Peter Fobb, Felmingham, Norwich; Jane McKay, Tunbridge Wells, Kent; Alec Finnemore, Alcester, Warks; William Marsden, Stonyhurst, Lancs; Andrew Fournier, Bugbrooke, Northampton; Simon Roberts, Nantwich, Cheshire; Mike Laney, Portishead, Bristol.

Twelve winners each receive a "Viva Scotland" record: Craig Quine, Blandford Forum, Dorset; Keith Long, Coventry, Warks; Gregor Pattinson, Stoney Stanton, Leics; Francis Gordon, Harrow, Middx; Kenneth F. Grau, Stathpeffer, Ross-shire; Jaspaui Singh, Hitchin, Herts; Steven Dryburgh, Rosyth, Fife; Denise MacLeod, Hillington, Glasgow; Williams Laird, Paisley, Renfrewshire; Richard West, Sheffield; Steven Reid, Pencoed, Mid. Glam; Murray Cran, Bucksburn, Aberdeen.

Twelve winners each receive a "Viva Ireland" record: Roger Horwood, Sevenoaks, Kent; Jonathan Lindsay, Co. Antrim; N. Ireland; Michael Green, Sheffield; Steven Mason, Basingstoke, Hants; Darren Baldwin, Nr. Newmarket, Suffolk; Kieran McGrane, Kilmarnock, Ayrshire; Colin Rainey, Castlereagh, Belfast; Patrick Conway, Luton, Beds; Mark Gavin, Luton, Beds; Paul Watcharn, Chelmsley Wood, Birmingham; Olive McWilliam, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland.

MATCH FACTS MATCH FACTS

HEREFORD (1) 3 (Phillips 16, Price 64, 84)
WIGAN (0) 0
Att: 4,191

Hereford: Brand 7, ★PRICE 9, Bartley 7, Pejic 7, Hicks 8, Spiring 7, Harvey 6, Laidlaw 6, Phillips 7, Showers 7, White 7.
Wigan: Tunks 6, McMahon 6, Glenn 6, Taylor 6, Lloyd 6, Methven 6, ★O'KEEFE 8, Barrow 6, Bradd 5, Houghton 7, Evans 5 (sub. Quinn 5).
Referee: H. Taylor (Leicester)
Match Rating: ★★

MANSFIELD (1) 3 (Caldwell 13, 65, Cannell 63)
HALIFAX (1) 2 (Davison 15, 57)
Att: 2,197

Mansfield: Arnold 5, Bird 6, Foster 5, Bell 6, Burrows 5, Wood 6, Mann 7, Cannell 6, Lumby 5, Nicholson 6, ★CALDWELL 8.
Halifax: Kilner 6, Chamberlain 5, Whiteley 5 (sub. Keys 5), Evans 5, Ayre 6, Hendrie 5, Ward 5, ★DAVISON 8, Graham 6, Spooner 7, Firth 6.
Referee: A. J. Hamil (Wolverhampton)
Match Rating: ★★

PORT VALE (1) 1 (Deakin, pen 45)
BOURNEMOUTH (0) 1 (Morgan 80)
Att: 3,004
Port Vale: Harrison 6, Bennett 6, Bowles 6, Deakin 6, Bromage 6, Armstrong 6, Tarrt 6, Greenhoff 6, Shankland 7, ★MOSS 8, Chamberlain, M 6.
Bournemouth: Leigh 7, Heffernan 6, Spackman 6, Impey 5, Sulley 6, Brignull 6, Carter 6, Dawtry 5 (sub. ★FUNNELL 8), Williams 6, Crawford 7, Morgan 7.
Referee: D. Allison (Lancaster)
Match Rating: ★★

TRANMERE (1) 2 (Kerr 41, 64)
SHEFFIELD UNITED (1) 2 (Kenworthy, pen 33, pen 85)
Att: 4,661

Tranmere: Endersby 6, Parry 6, Burgess 6, ★MOUNTFIELD 8, Williams 7, Morley 6, Hamilton 7, Powell 6 (sub. Brown), Kerr 7, Craven 6, Griffiths 6.
Sheff Utd: Waugh 6, Casey 6 (sub. Charles 5), Garner 6, Matthews 6, ★HOUSTON 8, Kenworthy 7, Morris 7, Trusson 6, Edwards 6, Hatton 7, King 6.
Referee: J. D. Hough (Macclesfield)
Match Rating: ★★
Sending Off: Brown (Tranmere)

TORQUAY (1) 2 (Cox 23, Cooper 53)
ROCHDALE (1) 1 (Hilditch 3)
Att: 1,554

Torquay: O'Keefe 6, Jones 6, Wilson 6, Sermanni 6, Lawrence 6, Rioch 6, Winn 5, Cooper 5, Tainton 6, ★YOUNG 8 (sub. Keeley).
Rochdale: Crawford 6, Weir 6, Snookes 6, Dolan 5, Cooper 6, Taylor 6, Goodwin 5, O'Loughlin 6, Hilditch 6, ★WELLINGS 7, Martinez 6.
Referee: J. Hunting (Leicester)
Match Rating: ★★

SCOTTISH Premier Division

CELTIC (0) 0
ABERDEEN (0) 1 (Kennedy 68)
Att: 30,080
Celtic: Bonner 7, McGrain 6, Reid 6 (sub. Moyes), Aitken 7, McAdam 7, Craigne 6, MacLeod 7, Sullivan 6, McCluskey 7, ★BURNS 8, McGarvey 6.
Aberdeen: Leighton 7, Kennedy 6, Rougvie 7 (sub. McMaster 6), Simpson 6, McLeish 7, ★MILLER 8, Cooper 7, Strachan 6, McGhee 7, Hewitt 6 (sub. Cowan), Weir 7.
Referee: D. Ramsey (Edinburgh)
Match Rating: ★★

DUNDEE UNITED (2) 5 (Sturrock 13, 15, 55, Milne 56, 71)
MORTON (0) 0
Att: 6,000
Dundee Utd: McAlpine 7, Stark 6, Malpas 6, Gough 7, Hegarty 6, Narey 7, Gibson 7, Milne 6, Holt 6 (sub. Bannon), ★STURROCK 8, Dadds 6 (sub. Reilly 6).
Morton: Baines 7, Hayes 6, Holmes 7, Rooney 6, McLaughlin 6, Duffy 6, McNeil 6 (sub. McNab 6), Docherty 7, Cochrane 6, ★HUTCHISON 8, Houston 6 (sub. Gavigan 6).
Referee: A. McGunnigle (Glasgow)
Match Rating: ★★

HIBERNIAN (0) 0
RANGERS (0) 0
Att: 12,390
Hibs: ★MCARTHUR 8, Sneddon 6, Schaedler 6, Brazil 7, Paterson 7, Flavell 6,

McNamara 7, McLeod 6, Rae 7, Murray 6, Duncan 7.
Rangers: Stewart 7, ★DAWSON 8, Black 6, Jardine 7, McClelland 7, Bett 6, Dalziel 6, Russell 7, MacDonald 6, Redford 7 (sub. Davies), Lyall 6 (sub. Robertson).
Referee: B. Valentine (Dundee)
Match Rating: ★★

PARTICK (0) 0
DUNDEE (2) 2 (Sinclair 29, Fraser 34)
Att: 2,500
Partick: Rough 7, McKinnon 6, Whittaker 7 (sub. Jardine 6), Doyle 7, Dunlop 6, ★WATSON 8, Park 7, O'Hara 6, Johnston 6, McDonald 6, Higgins 7 (sub. Sweeney 6).
Dundee: ★GEDDES 8, McKinnie 7, Cameron 6, Fraser 7, Smith 7, Glennie 6, Mackie 7, Fleming 6 (sub. Stephen 7), Sinclair 7, McGeachie 6, Kidd 6.
Referee: H. Alexander (Irvine)
Match Rating: ★★

ST MIRREN (1) 3 (Stark 43, McDougall 88, McAvennie 89)
AIRDRIE (0) 0
Att: 4,289
St Mirren: Thomson 7, Beckett 6, Abercrombie 7, Richardson 6, McCormack 6, Copeland 7, Bone 7, ★STARK 8, McDougall 6, McAvennie 7, Scanlon 6.
Airdrie: ★MARTIN 8, Cairney 6 (sub. Walker T 6), Rodger 7, Campbell 6, Anderson, G 6, Anderson, N 7, McKeown 6, Clark 7, Walker, C 6, Gordon 7, McGuire 6.
Referee: A. Ferguson (Giffnock)
Match Rating: ★★

First Division

AYR (1) 1 (Frye 24)
EAST STIRLING (0) 1 (McCaig 89)
Att: 1,293
Clydebank: (0) 2 (Hughes 53, Ronald 76)
Hearts: (0) 1 (Byrne, pen 61)
Att: 1,731

FALKIRK (0) 2 (McIntosh 55, Conn 89)
ST JOHNSTONE (0) 1 (Rutherford 47)
Att: 2,500

MOTHERWELL (0) 1 (McLaughlin 51)
KILMARNOCK (0) 0
Att: 4,816

QUEEN OF THE SOUTH (0) 0
HAMILTON (1) 3 (Fairlie 37, pen 88, Deeney 80)
Att: 500

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 3 (McNiven 9, Gilmour 56, McGregor 58)
DUMBARTON (0) 0
Att: 732

RAITH (0) 0
DUNFERMLINE (1) 1 (Stewart 28)
Att: 1,500

Second Division

ALLOA (1) 2 (McComb 4, 86)
CLYDE (0) 2 (O'Neill 49, 52)
Att: 1,210

ARBROATH (0) 0
MEADOWBANK (0) 0
Att: 686

BERWICK (1) 3 (Halley, og 35, Marshall 55, O'Connor 70)
EAST FIFE (0) 0
Att: 797

BRECHIN (0) 0
STENHOUSEMUIR (1) 1 (Meakin 32)
Att: 400

COWDENBEATH (2) 3 (Hyslop 40, 41, Liddle 51)
MONTROSE (0) 2 (Campbell 87, Fletcher 89)
Att: 315

STIRLING (0) 1 (Murdoch, pen 87)
ALBION (3) 4 (Sheilds 13, Leishman 32, 40, Burgess 78)
Att: 300

Division One

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	P
Southampton	33	14	1	2	41	19	3	8	7	18	29	58
Swansea	31	10	3	2	26	9	7	2	7	19	27	56
Liverpool	29	8	3	4	27	12	8	3	3	28	13	54
Man. Utd.	30	8	6	2	21	8	7	3	4	22	14	54
Ipswich	29	10	1	2	30	16	7	2	7	23	24	54
Arsenal	31	10	0	2	17	10	5	4	6	12	14	53
Tottenham	27	8	0	5	26	16	7	5	2	19	10	50
Man. C.	32	8	6	2	29	13	5	5	6	15	20	50
Nott'm. For.	31	6	6	3	16	14	6	5	5	17	20	47
Brighton	31	6	6	4	25	20	5	8	4	9	11	45
West Ham	30	7	6	2	30	20	3	6	6	19	20	42
Everton	31	8	5	3	24	15	2	8	7	14	23	41
Notts. County	31	5	4	4	22	22	5	2	9	26	26	40
Aston Villa	31	5	5	4	17	17	4	5	2	27	37	37
West Brom.	28	5	6	3	18	13	3	5	8	16	20	35
Stoke	32	6	1	9	19	24	3	5	8	16	26	33
Birmingham	30	7	6	3	27	19	0	5	9	13	25	32
Coventry	32	6	3	7	23	22	2	5	9	15	30	32
Leeds	29	5	7	3	16	12	2	0	12	7	31	28
Wolves	32	6	3	7	10	14	1	4	11	9	35	28
Sunderland	30	2	4	9	9	22	3	3	8	1	35	28
Middlesbro	30	3	6	6	14	20	0	5	10	7	22	20

Division Two

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	P
Watford	32	10	5	2	36	14	8	3	4	22	19	62
Luton	30	10	1	2	29	11	7	8	2	30	21	60
Sheff. Wed.	33	7	7	3	25	20	9	1	6	20	17	55
Rotherham	33	12	2	3	32	12	5	2	9	17	24	55
Blackburn	33	10	2	4	20	9	5	7	5	20	19	54
Newcastle	31	13	2	1	26	7	2	4	9	13	22	51
Leicester	30	10	4	2	24	11	4	4	6	19	21	50
Barnsley	32	10	3	3	26	12	4	4	8	20	22	49
Q.P.R.	31	10	3	2	24	6	4	2	10	16	25	47
Oldham	33	7	8	3	24	21	5	3	7	15	18	47
Norwich	32	10	3	4	30	18	4	2	9	12	25	47
Carlisle	31	8	3	3	26	19	4	2	7	17	32	46
Chelsea	31	8	3	4	26	20	4	3	9	16	24	42
Cambridge	31	8	3	4	21	14	2	3	11	14	26	36
Derby	32	7	7	2	26	17	2	1	13	15	40	35
Shrewsbury	30	7	5	3	20	15	1	5	9	7	25	34
Crystal Pal.	29	7	2	5	17	14	2	4	9	6	17	33
Bolton	33	7	2	7	19	20	2	3	12	8	26	32
Wrexham	30	6	0	8	13	17	2	7	14	22	31	31
Orient	29	4	6	5	15	18	4	0	10	10	22	30
Cardiff	31	6	2	7	19	24	2	3	11	12	23	29
Grimby	29	2	7	6	16	21	3	4	7	14	26	26

Division Three

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	P
Lincoln	35	9	5	3	32	14	5	6	5	21	19	57
Reading	37	11	5	4	41	28	5	4	8	18	27	57
Fulham	33	8	6	2	29	16	7	5	5	23	19	56
Carlisle	33	12	4	1	31	15	4	4	8	15	22	56
Chest'field	34	10	4	3	27	17	8	4	7	18	19	56
Burnley	33	7	6	2	22	13	6	7	5	22	22	52
Brentford	35	8	4	6	18	19	4	7	21	21	50	50
Bristol Rov.	31	0	0	28	20	2	5	10	17	30	46	30
Oxford	32	7	5	4	18	13	6	5	5	22	20	49
Gillingham	33	9	4	4	34	22	5	3	8	12	20	49
Plymouth	35	9	4	4	29	16	4	5	9	19	25	48
Southend	35	7	7	4	23	19	5	5	7	16	19	48
Walsall	35	8	5	5	28	18	3	7	7	16	22	45
Millwall	31	8	2	4	24	18	3	7	5	12	18	38
Portsmouth	34	8	7	2	22	11	2	7	8	16	27	44
Exeter	35	10	2	5	33	29	2	5	11	20	40	43
Doncaster	34	7	4	5	22	17	4	5	9	20	36	42
Huddersfield	34	7	4	7	28	22	3	8	7	17	23	40
Preston	33	8	6	4	14	13	4	4	9	18	28	40
Swindon	33	8	5	7	28	36	3	7	5	12	18	38
Newport	31	5	8	19	17	5	9	9	20	26	37	37
Bristol City	33	4	5	15	21	4	4	8	14	20	33	33
Wimbledon	31	6	5	5	19	18	2	3	10	18	36	32
Chester	33	2	8	6	13	20	5	1	11	20	34	30

Division Four

	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	P
Brad. City	35	11	5	2	39	17	10	3	4	30	17	71
Peterboro	35	12	2	1	40	11	7	6	5	21	26	71
Sheff. Utd.	34	12	5	0	40	11	8	5	4	25	22	70
Wigan	36	13	1	1	34	13	7	7	2	28	25	70
Bournemouth	35	8	9	1	25	13	9	5	3	19	11	65
Colchester	35	10	4	3	42	18	7	4	7	26	25	59
Bury	34	11	4	1	43	17	4	8	6	22	25	59
Port Vale	36	6	10	2	20	15	7	4	7	25	25	53
Blackpool	34	10	3	6	36	22	3	7	5	20	22	49
Hull	34	10	1	5	27	16	3	7	8	28	33	47
Hereford	33	9	9	5	21	19	5	6	5	21	19	46
Aldershot	36	4	4	7	23	23	5	7	7	22	32	44
Tranmere	37	4	9	6	20	22	5	7	6	18	24	43
Hartlepool	35	6	5	6	27	28	4	7	7	28	34	41
Torquay	34	6	7	4	21	17	4	4	9	13	20	41
Darlington	36	7	4	6	25	21	3	7	9	19	30	41
Mansfield	36	5	7	3	32	23	3	5	10	20	30	41
Stockport	34	9	3	7	28	24	4	7	6	18	24	43
Northampton	37	7	4	8	29	25	2	3	13	21	46	34
York	34	5	5	8	28	34	4	11	18	41	33	41
Rochdale	32	5	8	16	51	24	2	5	9	17	28	32
Halifax	35	8	5	17	21	22	4	9	7	18	31	32
Scunthorpe	36	3	10	13	23	24	3	10	11	20	23	32
Grimsby	35	3	4	14	23	23	3	2	12	7	23	25

Focus on Divisions Three and Four with Melvyn Beck

THE constant fear of closure has kept finance-stricken Bristol City in the public glare for most of the season.

The sacking of eight players sent shock waves through the whole of football as several clubs in the lower divisions fight off similar threats.

But, while the sad chapter of events at once-proud Ashton Gate has kept City in the limelight for the wrong reasons, their neighbours, Rovers, have slipped almost unnoticed to the fringe of the Third Division promotion race.

Under the astute guidance of their former player, Bobby Gould, they steadily climbed up the ladder to assume the role of the city's top side after several seasons in the shadows.

There was obviously more than a tinge of sympathy for the problems across the city, but life goes on at Eastville where, over the past few seasons, they have had more than their fair share of setbacks.

And now there is an air of optimism surrounding the club, with the refreshing leadership of Bobby Gould moulding a youthful squad into possible Second Division candidates.

One of the rising personalities in this Rovers revival is new England Under-21 cap Gary Mabbutt, whose brother, Kevin, was transferred from Bristol City to Crystal Palace shortly before the club's crisis became public.

He realises only too well that brother Kevin might have become one of City's sad statistics had he remained at crisis-torn Ashton Gate, where First Division stars paraded just two years ago.

"In no way did the City situation frighten us, even though it happened on our doorstep," says 20-year-old Gary, who won his first Under-21 cap in the 2-1 victory in Poland.

"But like all the other professionals in the game, it made us think a bit about the problems and what could happen.

"There is obviously a lot of rivalry between the clubs but we all had sympathy with the eight players who had their contracts terminated.

"We were comforted by the fact that Rovers were not in such dire straits, and we've just carried on as normal in our bid to get the club back into the Second Division.

"We've still got a bit to do, but we are optimistic about our prospects.

"Manager Bobby Gould had a difficult time when he took over from Terry Cooper in October

Right: Bristol Rovers' Gary Mabbutt — a target for the bigger clubs following his England Under-21 debut.



RISE OF THE ROVERS

several different roles has made him a target for some of the more successful clubs in the country.

A possible move to Second Division leaders Luton collapsed recently, and that came as a disappointment to the talented youngster.

"I was disappointed when that deal fell through, but all I can do is to keep playing well in the hope that some of the bigger clubs will take notice.

"I'm keen to play in a higher

division, particularly having been involved with some of the First Division youngsters in the England Under-21 team.

"That call-up came out of the blue, and being a Third Division player, it came as a great boost."

Gary operated at left-back in Poland, where England achieved a 2-1 first leg lead in the European Under-21 Championship Quarter-Final tie, but he prefers an attacking role from midfield.

"I would like to settle down into a permanent position, but I suppose being able to play anywhere might help me in the future."

SWOP SHOP

OFFER: Norwich and Manchester City kits (36) as new, plus programmes.

WANTS: New Aston Villa strip (36-38), Liverpool's new away strip or any other strip in good condition.
Paul Ryan, 6 O'Mahony Avenue, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary, Eire.

OFFER: Three Arsenal scarves (one silk) and Arsenal strip (shirt 30-32, shorts 28-30).

WANTS: Three Crystal Palace scarves (one silk) plus Palace strip shirt 34-36, shorts 32-34).

Mark Sanford, 98 High Street, Carshalton, Surrey.

OFFER: A brand new Subbuteo pitch and box of interchangeable goalkeepers.

WANTS: Twenty Liverpool programmes (including 1981 European Cup Final and four others from European away ties).
Andrew Turner, 12 Strawberry Avenue, Sheffield, Yorks.

OFFER: Six programmes including England v Northern Ireland (1979 European Football Championship) all in good condition.

WANTS: Six Liverpool programmes (not Liverpool v Forest, League Cup, Semi-Final, first leg).

Paul Capps, 16 Standing Butts Close, Walton-on-Trent, Burton-on-Trent, Staffs.

OFFER: Scotland home shirt (38) and Liverpool home shirt (36).

WANTS: New Spurs kit or new England kit (38 or 36).
Ralf Burghardt, Fritz-Philippi-Str. 40, 6200 Wiesbaden, West Germany.

OFFER: Subbuteo set, Arsenal shirt (36) and seven programmes.

WANTS: Newcastle, Sunderland or Hartlepool shirt (35), four Hartlepool programmes, five Sunderland, five Newcastle and a Hartlepool scarf.

Shane Stannard, 42 Holloway Crescent, Leaden Roding, Dunmow, Essex.

SWOP SHOP

Last chance to choose your star

THIS is your last chance to vote for the 'Match Weekly Man of the Year' — the player you believe has done most for the game this season.

And you could be the lucky person to present our 'Man of the Year' trophy to the winner of our poll if your entry coupon is the one picked out.

You made young Villa striker Gary Shaw your 'Man of the Year' last season and it's now up to you to decide who will succeed him.

Maybe you'll vote for him again, of course, or you may go for one of a number of other worthy candidates...

If it's goals that count in your book, then you may wish to vote for one of the leading scorers like Kevin Keegan, Simon Stainrod, Keith Cassells, Craig Madden or George McCluskey.

Or it could be a goalkeeper who gets your vote like Manchester United's 'top stopper' Gary Bailey... Spurs' Ray Clemence... Forest's Peter Shilton... or Manchester City's Joe Corrigan.

Maybe young Liverpool star Ronnie Whelan will be your man — especially after his sparkling two-goal display in this season's League Cup Final.

Other candidates for 'Man of the Year' might be Glenn Hoddle of Spurs, Graeme Souness of Liverpool, Alan Brazil of Ipswich, Bryan Robson of Manchester United, Cyrille Regis of West Brom, Trevor Francis of Manchester City or Danny Thomas of Coventry.

It's up to you to make your choice.



Just fill in the coupon below stating your choice for 'Man of the Year' and say why you believe he should win the award (in not more than 30 words).

Add your name, age, address, cut out the coupon and send it to: 'Man of the Year', Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.

We'll be publishing some of your comments and those readers whose remarks are printed win £2.

The closing date for all entries is April 9 and results will appear in the April 24 issue — together with the name of the lucky reader who will present the award.

VOTE HERE

My choice for Man of the Year is.....

Because

Age.....

Name

Address.....



Why did Terry Venables' cow die?
Because it tried to eat the grass at Loftus Road!
Richard Ward, Bourneville, Birmingham.

SEND your football jokes to us. We'll pay £2 for each one we publish. Write to Football Funnies, Match Weekly, Stirling House, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DJ.



Did you hear about the Irish fan who hitch-hiked to his team's games? He left early to avoid the traffic!
Scott Elliott, Tile Hill, Coventry.

When Arsenal's Kenny Sansom scored a own goal, his manager Terry Neill commented: "He was miles offside — it shouldn't have been allowed!"
Nicholas Tsatsas, London.



"Five minutes to go, Sammy. Go out there and give them hell!"

It's rough on Billy



St Mirren 'keeper Billy Thomson — challenging Alan Rough for the Scotland number one jersey



No. 13 BILLY THOMSON

ST MIRREN'S Billy Thomson is out to break Alan Rough's stranglehold on the Scottish number one jersey.

Despite his critics, the Partick Thistle 'keeper has become Scotland's most capped goalkeeper and that's meant frustration for his country's number two.

"It's terrible when you watch the lads getting ready to go out onto the pitch before internationals. You just wish you could be one of them," said Billy, who's been Scotland's understudy since their World Cup campaign started.

"I want to be my country's number one but I know that I've got a tough task. All I can do is to keep playing as well as I can.

"Off the field, Alan and I are good friends and we get on well together, but he knows I'm after his job."

Billy is a great admirer of his Scottish rival and he says:

"Earlier in his career Alan took a lot of unfair stick.

"Many people wrote him off as a bad goalkeeper but he's proved them wrong. Alan's a reaction 'keeper — he's got great reflexes.

Weakness

"Perhaps if he has got a weakness, it's at crosses. But that's something he seems to have improved on."

Billy believes that the standard of Scottish goalkeeping has risen dramatically in recent years and that's why he believes he's not assured of a place in his country's final 22 for Spain.

"To play in a World Cup Finals is a chance in a lifetime. Players would give their right arm to go.

"But I know I'm not guaranteed a place in the squad. There are so many other good Scottish 'keepers around like Aberdeen's Jim Leighton, Jim Stewart of Rangers and Morton's Roy Baines.

"Scottish 'keepers have always been regarded as a joke in the past but that's not true anymore. I believe the criticism has spurred us on to prove that

we're in the same class as the English 'keepers."

Billy, who has four Scottish caps, gives much of the credit for his success to St Mirren's assistant manager Eric Sorenson.

"One thing wrong with Scottish 'keepers is that they don't get enough proper coaching. There aren't many goalkeeping coaches around. I've been lucky in that Eric used to play between the posts and has helped me a lot.

"I've benefited because the only people who can coach goalkeepers are goalkeepers," added Billy.

Final

Before the 24-year-old considers the possibility of a trip to Spain, there's the prospect of a Scottish FA Cup Final appearance at Hampden Park.

St Mirren are just one step away from the final. They meet Aberdeen in a last four tie at Celtic's Parkhead.

"I'm really looking forward to the game. There'll be a great atmosphere and, with two attacking teams on display, it should be a spectacle for the fans.

"Aberdeen have some good young players in their side — winger Peter Weir is one of the lads I've always admired and in defence, Willie Miller and Alex McLeish provide a useful partnership."

Billy believes that the emergence of teams like Aberdeen, Dundee United and St Mirren to threaten the Glasgow stranglehold on Scottish football has helped the game north of the border.

"It's created more interest because the big two — Rangers and Celtic — aren't guaranteed to run away with the prizes any more.

"We've now got the players to challenge for honours. It's down to attitude. We've got to be able to cope with the big-time.

"Celtic and Rangers' players are used to winning things. It's a habit other clubs have got to pick up."

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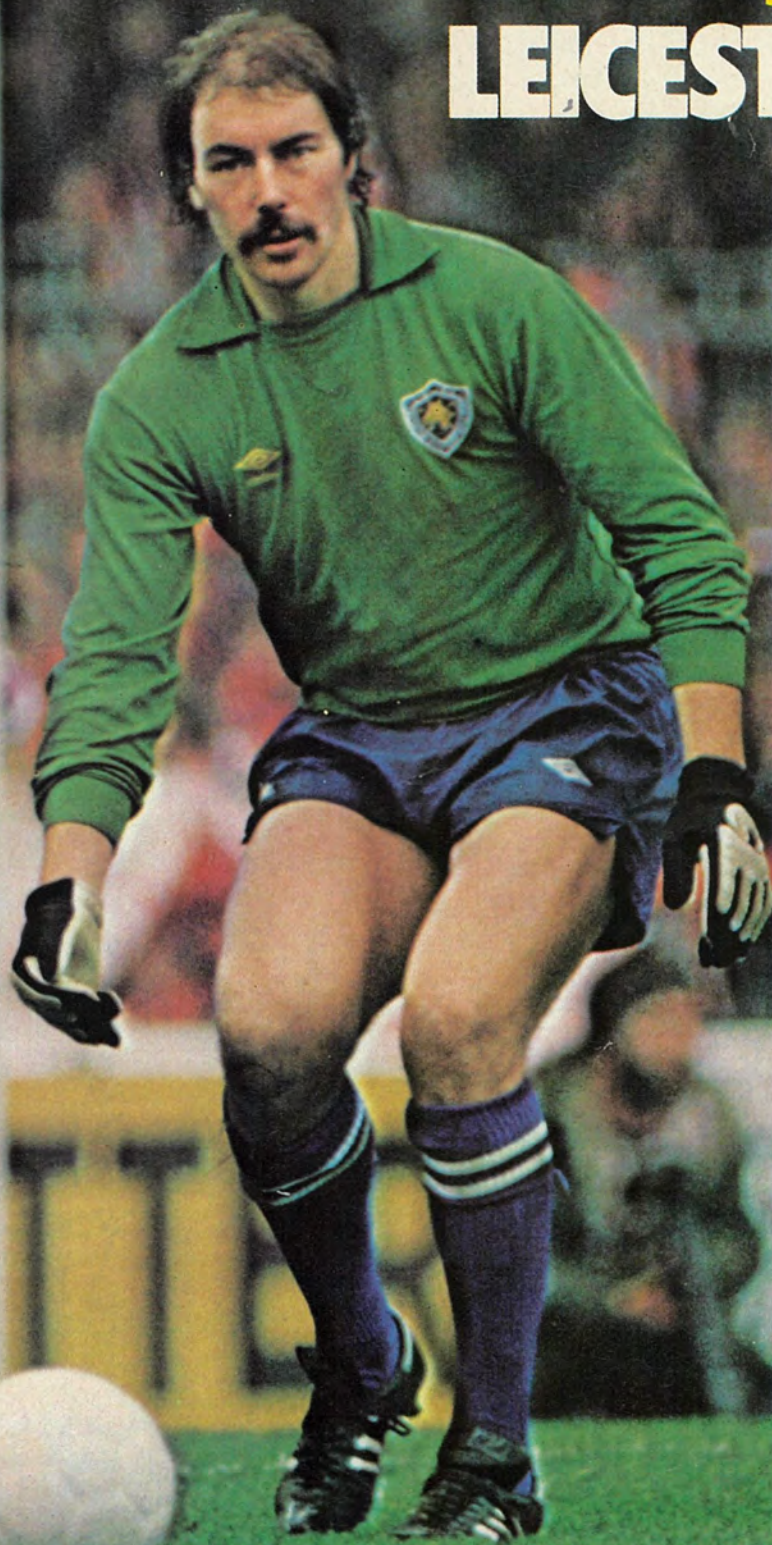
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